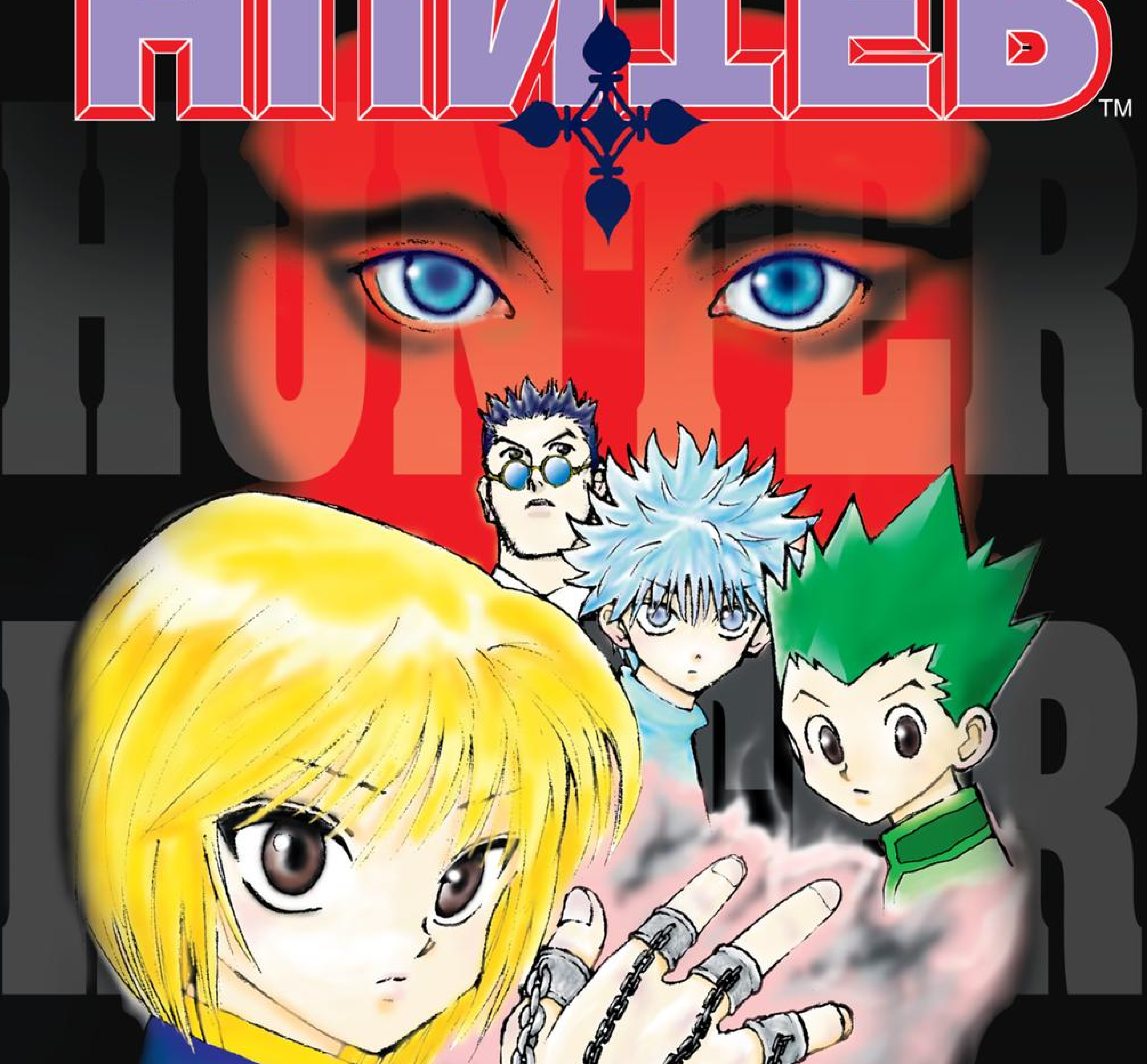
HUNTER×HUNTER

ハンター×ハンター™



9

SHONEN JUMP ADVANCED

Story & Art by

YOSHIHIRO TOGASHI

冨樫義博

Mr. T. (age 34), reported missing, has been found floating in the Tokyo Metropolitan area. There were no noticeable injuries.

Yoshihiro Togashi

Yoshihiro Togashi's manga career began in 1986 at the age of 20, when he won the coveted Osamu Tezuka Award for new manga artists. He debuted in the Japanese **Weekly Shonen Jump** magazine in 1989 with the romantic comedy **Tende Shôwaru Cupid**. From 1990 to 1994 he wrote and drew the hit manga **YuYu Hakusho**, which was followed by the dark comedy science-fiction series **Level E,** and finally this adventure series **Hunter x Hunter**, available from VIZ Media's SHONEN JUMP Advanced imprint. In 1999 he married the manga artist Naoko Takeuchi.

HUNTER X HUNTER Volume 9
The SHONEN JUMP ADVANCED Manga Edition

STORY AND ART BY
YOSHIHIRO TOGASHI

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Touch-up Art & Lettering/Mark Griffin
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RATED T+ FOR OLDER TEEN

PARENTAL ADVISORY
HUNTER X HUNTER is rated T+ for Older Teen and is recommended for ages 16 and up. Contains realistic violence and mature language.

THE WORLD'S MOST CUTTING-EDGE MANGA
SHONEN JUMP ADVANCED
www.shonenjump.com

SHONEN JUMP ADVANCED MANGA

HUNTER×HUNTER™

ハンター×ハンター

Story & Art by
Yoshihiro Togashi

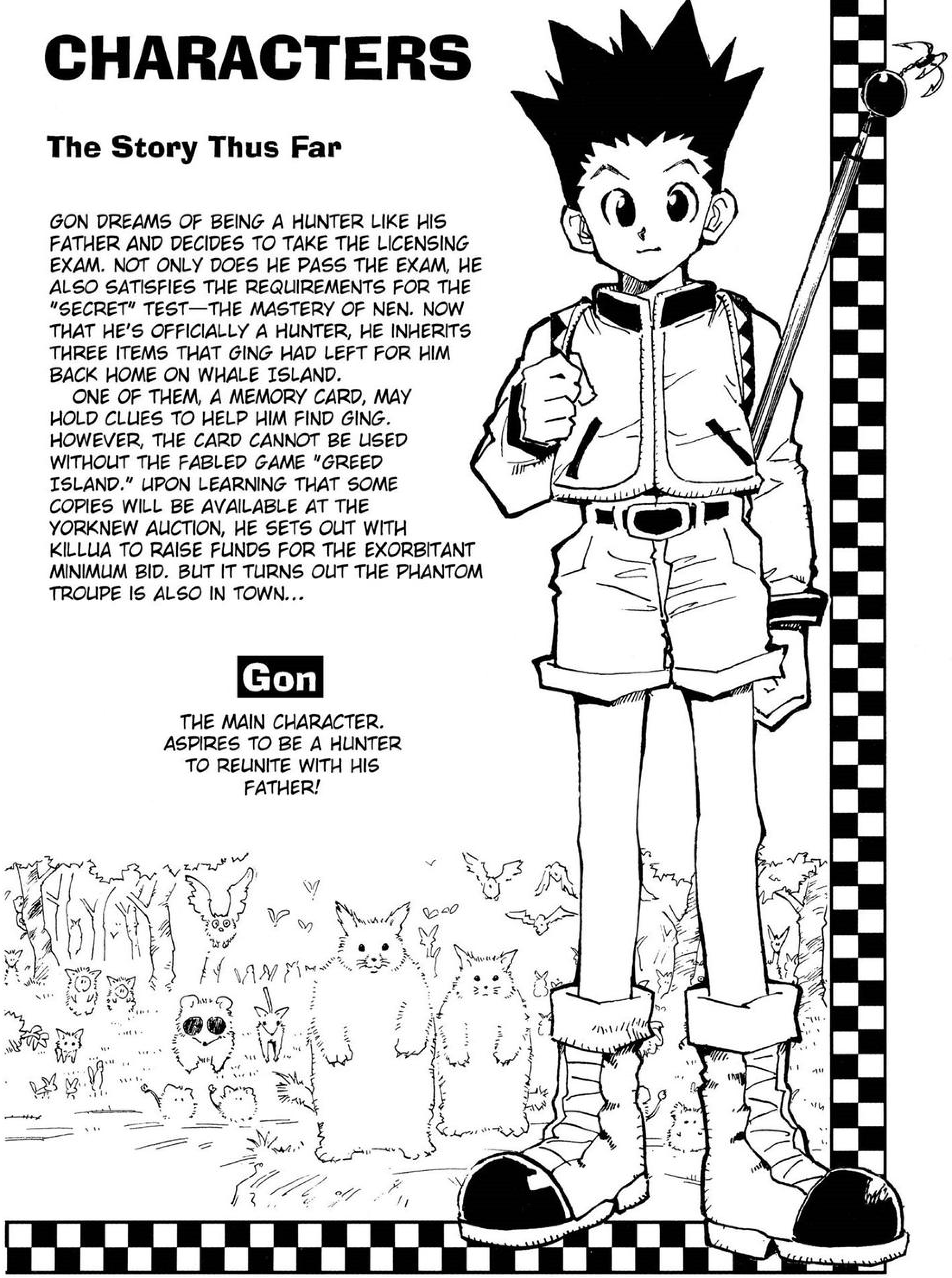
Volume 9

CHARACTERS

The Story Thus Far

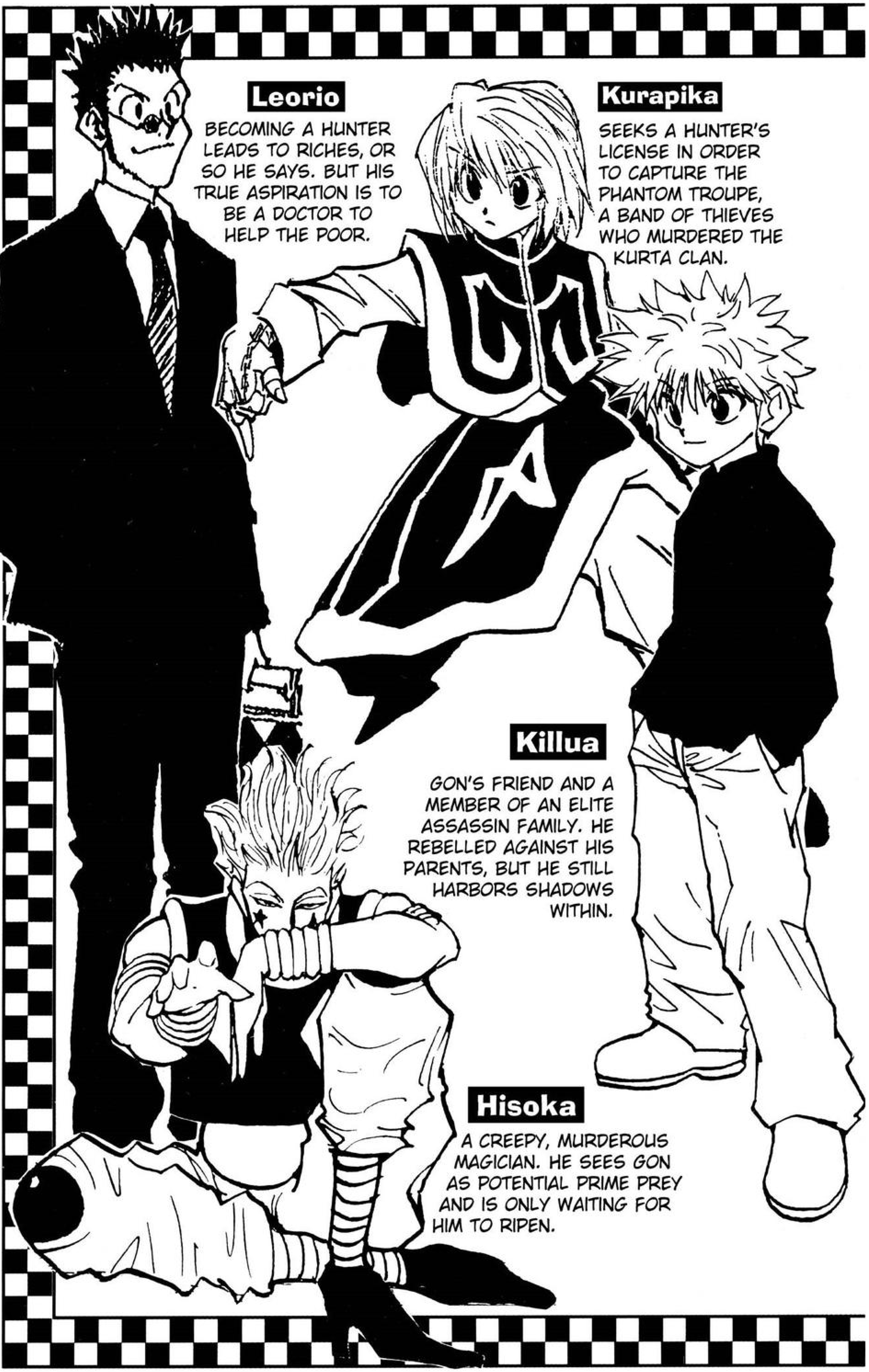
GON DREAMS OF BEING A HUNTER LIKE HIS FATHER AND DECIDES TO TAKE THE LICENSING EXAM. NOT ONLY DOES HE PASS THE EXAM, HE ALSO SATISFIES THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE "SECRET" TEST—THE MASTERY OF NEN. NOW THAT HE'S OFFICIALLY A HUNTER, HE INHERITS THREE ITEMS THAT GING HAD LEFT FOR HIM BACK HOME ON WHALE ISLAND.

ONE OF THEM, A MEMORY CARD, MAY HOLD CLUES TO HELP HIM FIND GING. HOWEVER, THE CARD CANNOT BE USED WITHOUT THE FABLED GAME "GREED ISLAND." UPON LEARNING THAT SOME COPIES WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE YORKNEW AUCTION, HE SETS OUT WITH KILLUA TO RAISE FUNDS FOR THE EXORBITANT MINIMUM BID. BUT IT TURNS OUT THE PHANTOM TROUPE IS ALSO IN TOWN...



Gon

THE MAIN CHARACTER. ASPIRES TO BE A HUNTER TO REUNITE WITH HIS FATHER!



Kurapika

SEEKS A HUNTER'S LICENSE IN ORDER TO CAPTURE THE PHANTOM TROUPE, A BAND OF THIEVES WHO MURDERED THE KURTA CLAN.

Leorio

BECOMING A HUNTER LEADS TO RICHES, OR SO HE SAYS. BUT HIS TRUE ASPIRATION IS TO BE A DOCTOR TO HELP THE POOR.

Killua

GON'S FRIEND AND A MEMBER OF AN ELITE ASSASSIN FAMILY. HE REBELLED AGAINST HIS PARENTS, BUT HE STILL HARBORS SHADOWS WITHIN.

Hisoka

A CREEPY, MURDEROUS MAGICIAN. HE SEES GON AS POTENTIAL PRIME PREY AND IS ONLY WAITING FOR HIM TO RIPEN.

HUNTER × HUNTER™

Volume 9

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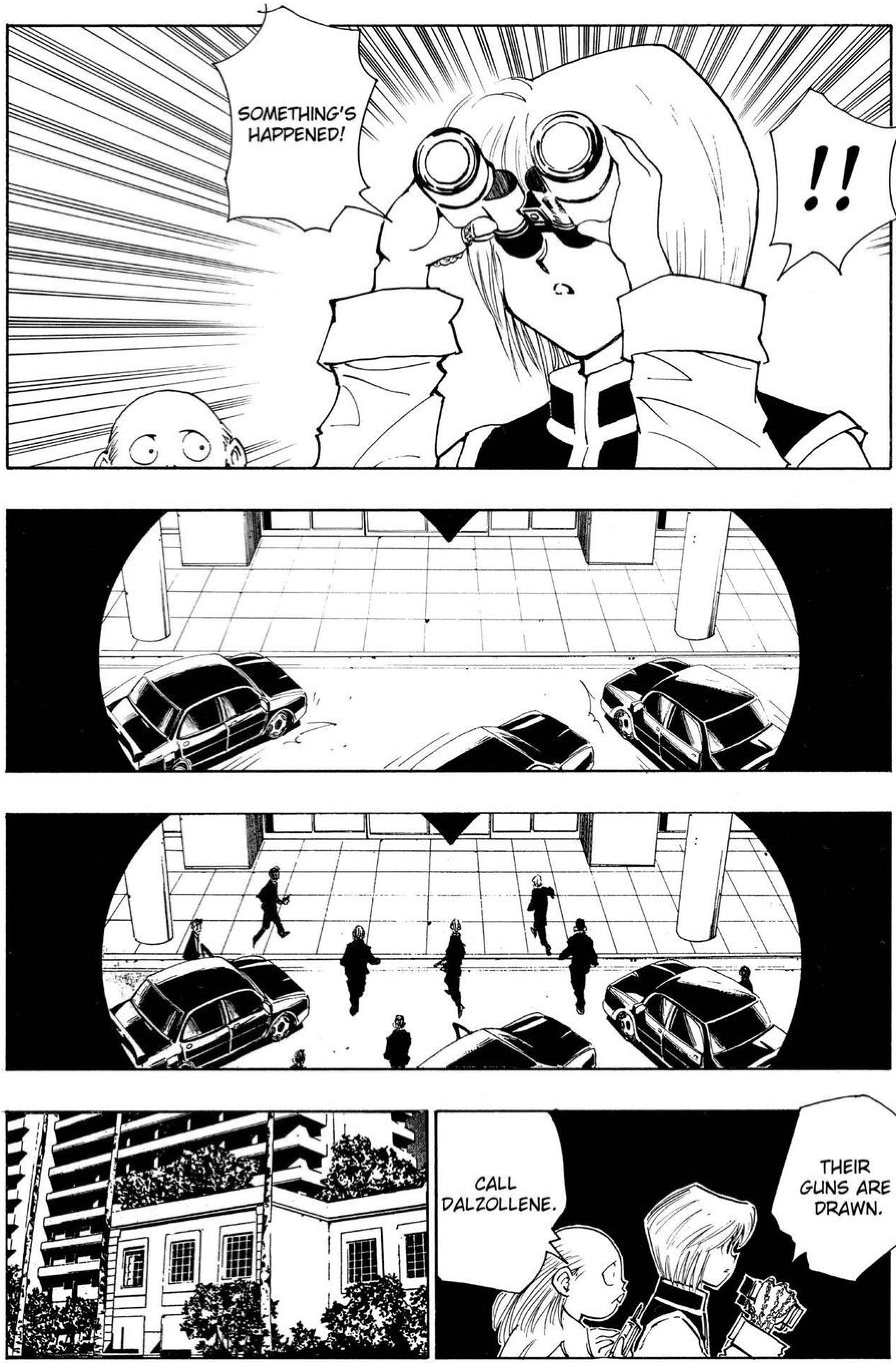
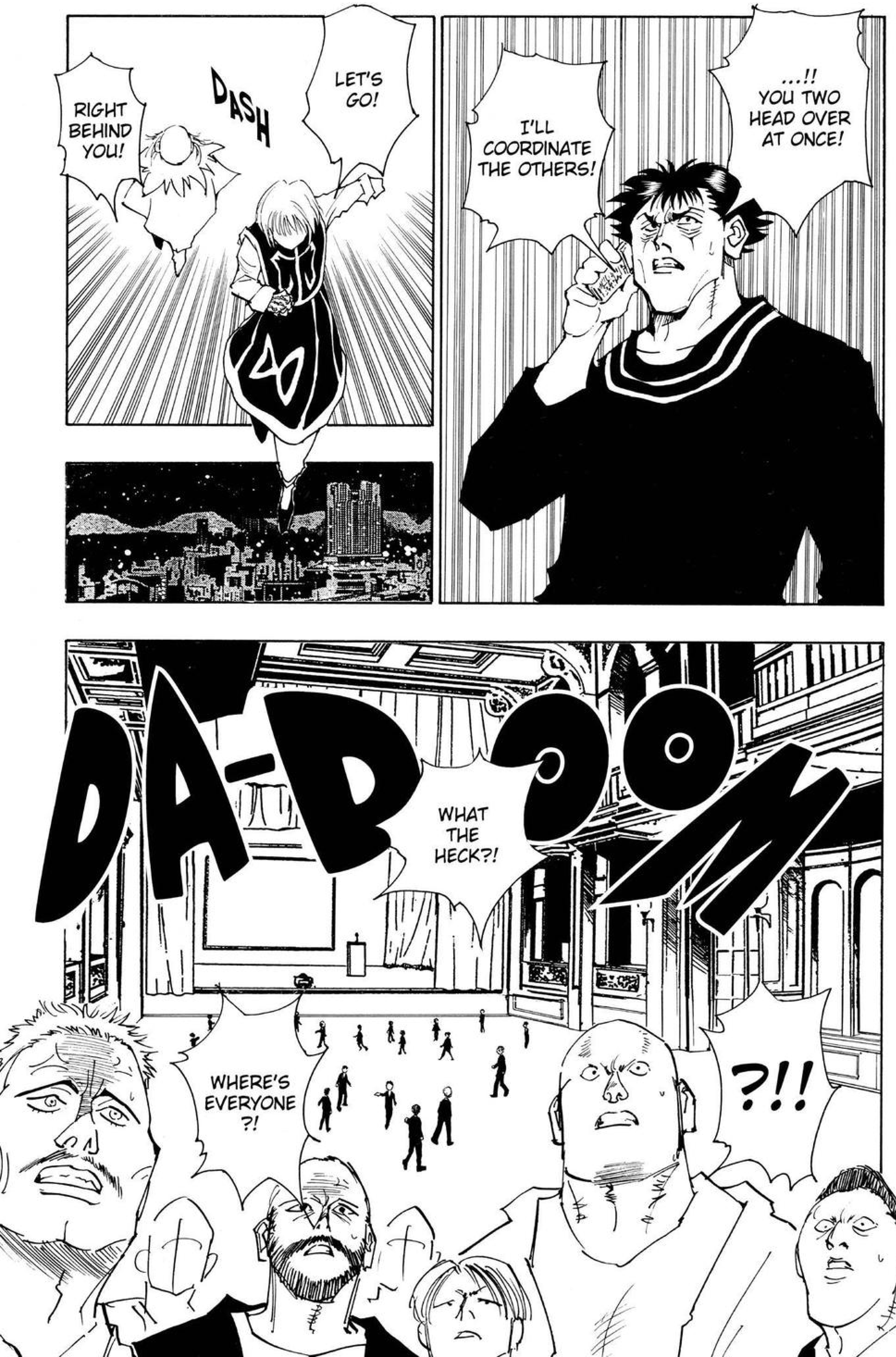
Chapter 74

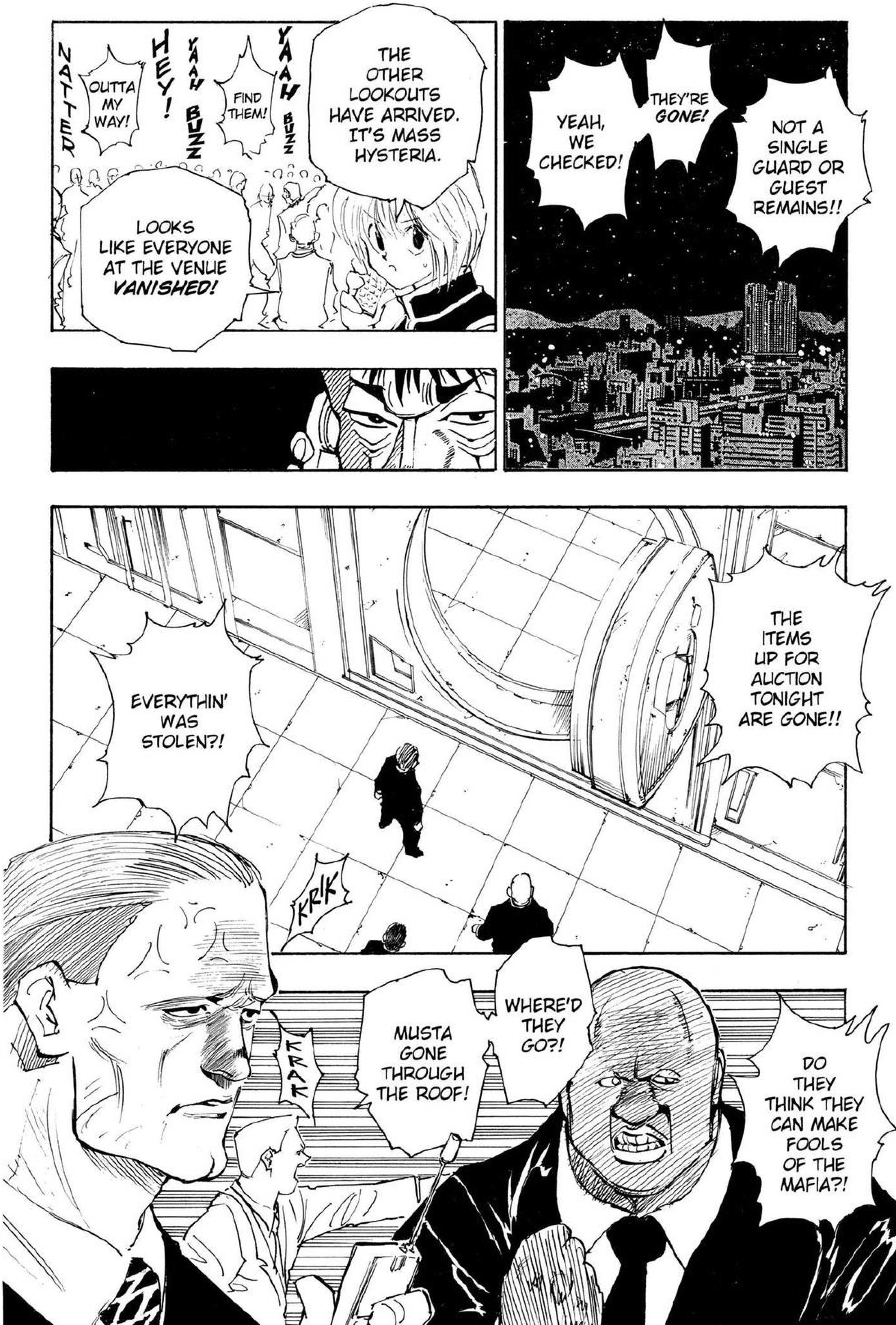
September 1st: Part 3

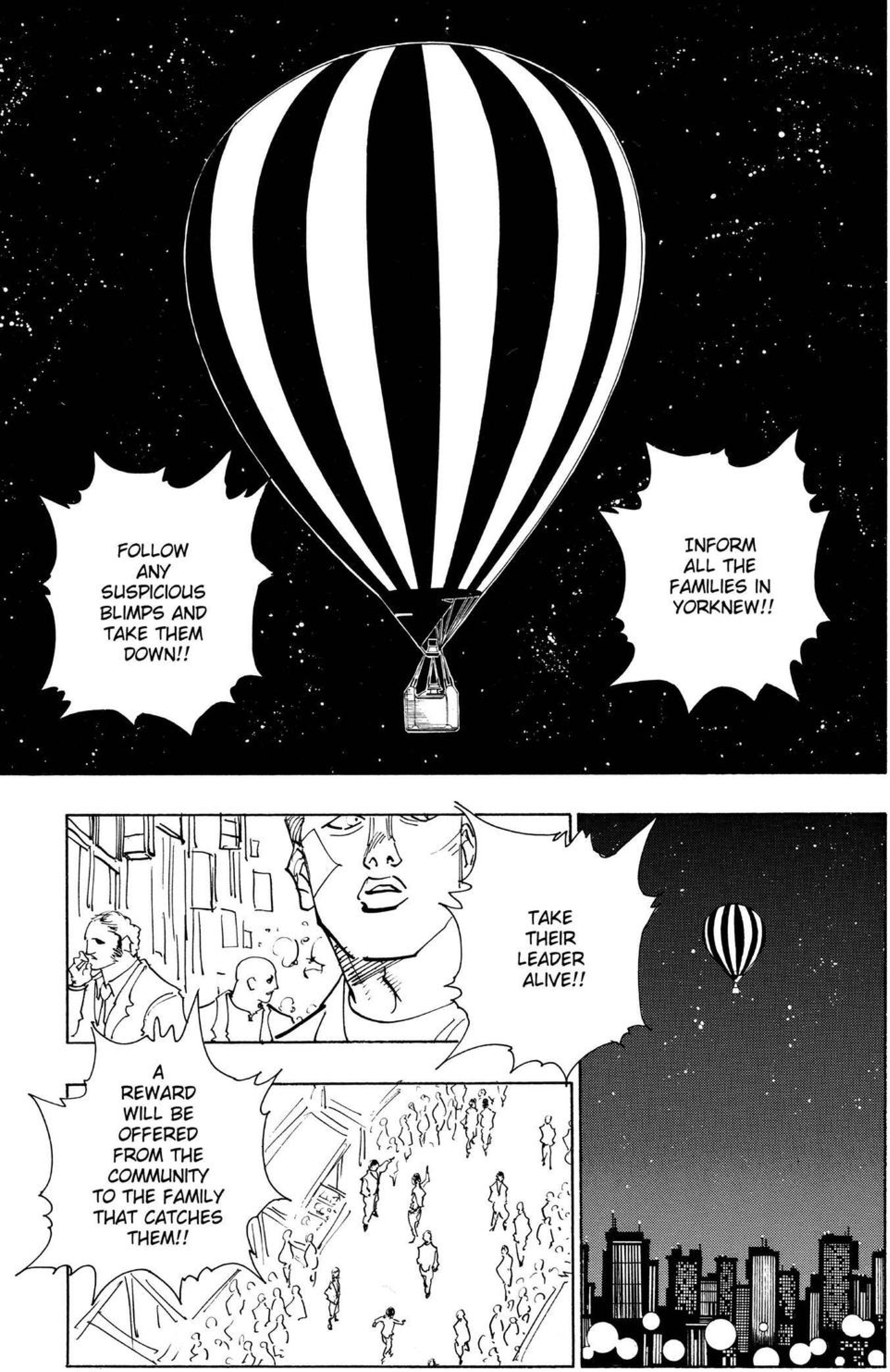
SEASON'S GREETINGS

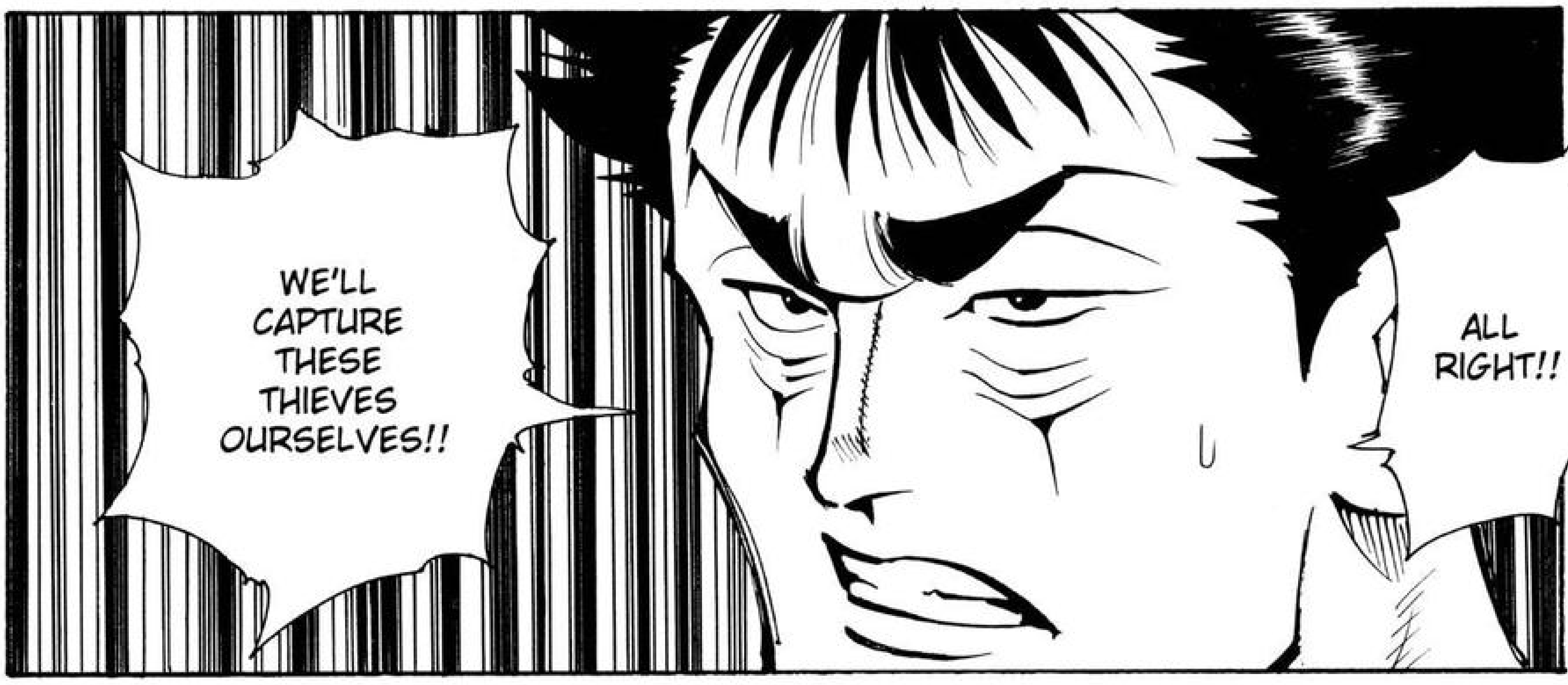
YOSHIHIRO TOGASHI

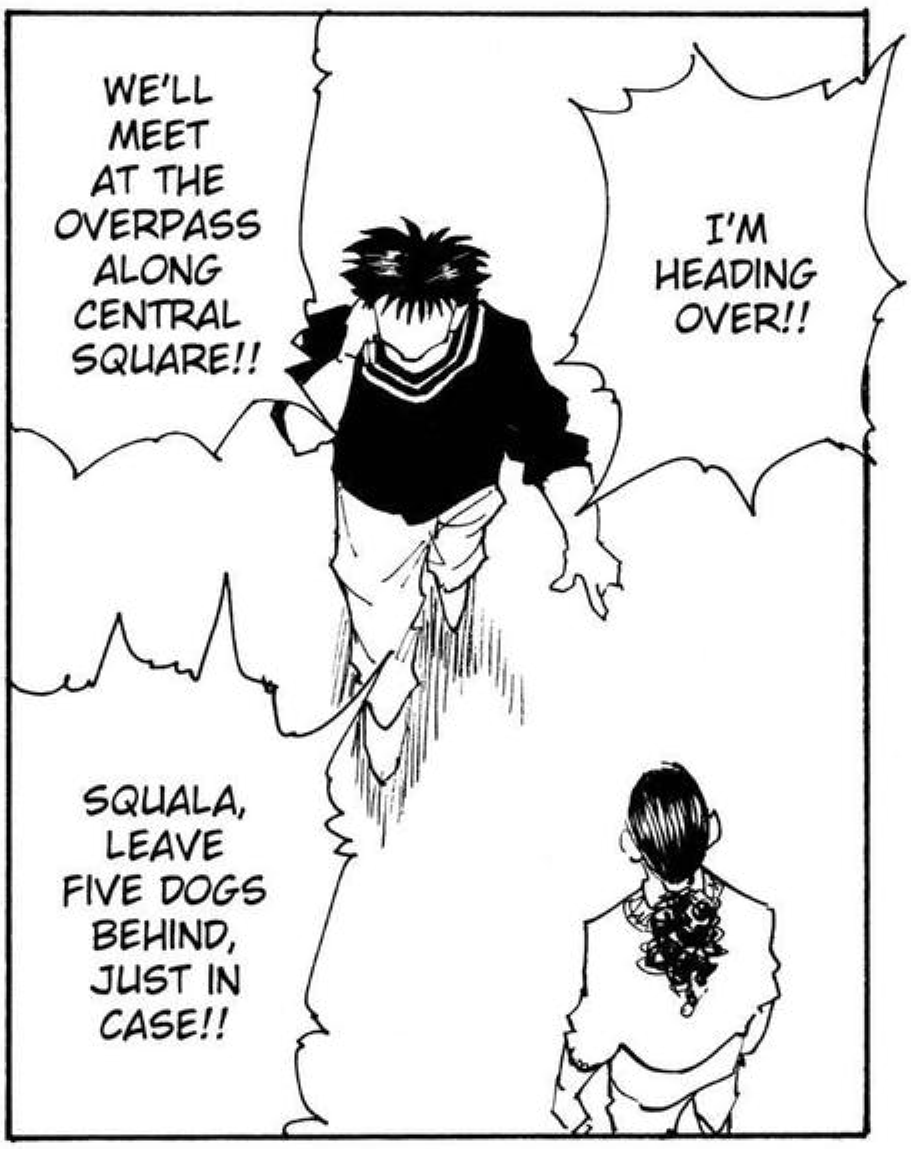

!!
SOMETHING'S HAPPENED!
THEIR GUNS ARE DRAWN.
CALL DALZOLLENE.

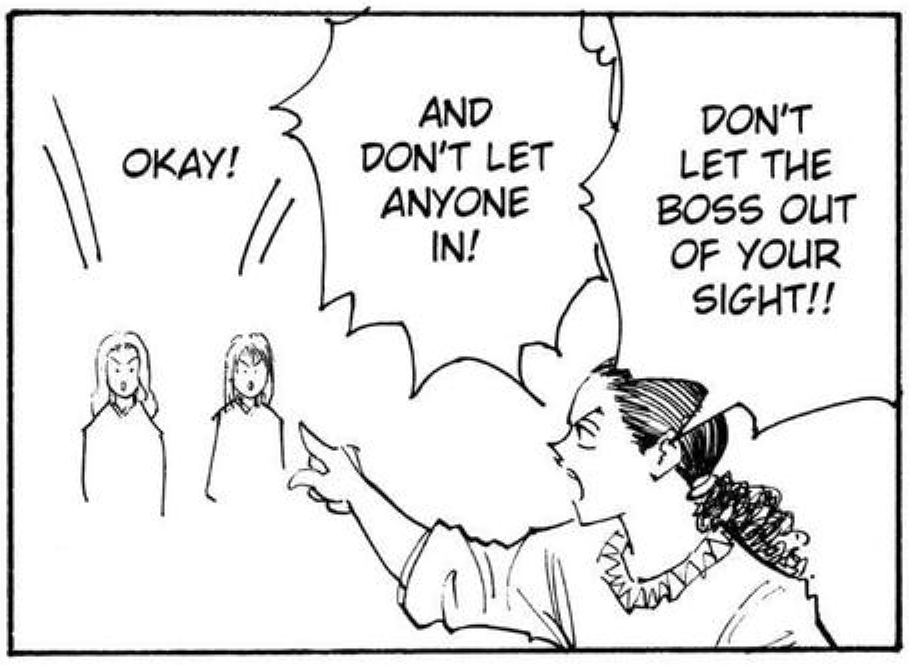

...!! YOU TWO HEAD OVER AT ONCE!
I'LL COORDINATE THE OTHERS!
LET'S GO!
DASH
RIGHT BEHIND YOU!
DA-DOOM
WHAT THE HECK?!
?!!
WHERE'S EVERYONE ?!

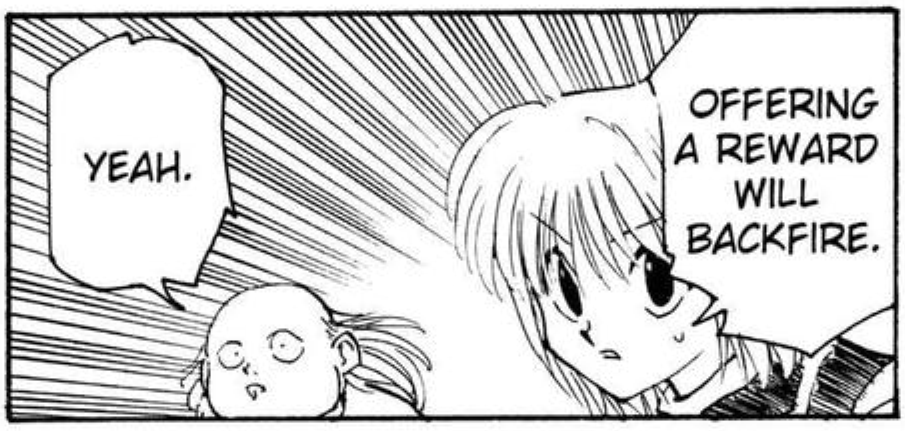

NOT A SINGLE GUARD OR GUEST REMAINS!!
THEY'RE *GONE!*
YEAH, WE CHECKED!
THE OTHER LOOKOUTS HAVE ARRIVED. IT'S MASS HYSTERIA.
LOOKS LIKE EVERYONE AT THE VENUE *VANISHED!*
YAAAH BUZZ
FIND THEM!
YAAAH BUZZ
HEY!
OUTTA MY WAY!
NATTER
THE ITEMS UP FOR AUCTION TONIGHT ARE GONE!!
EVERYTHIN' WAS STOLEN?!
KRIK
DO THEY THINK THEY CAN MAKE FOOLS OF THE MAFIA?!
WHERE'D THEY GO?!
MUSTA GONE THROUGH THE ROOF!
KRAK

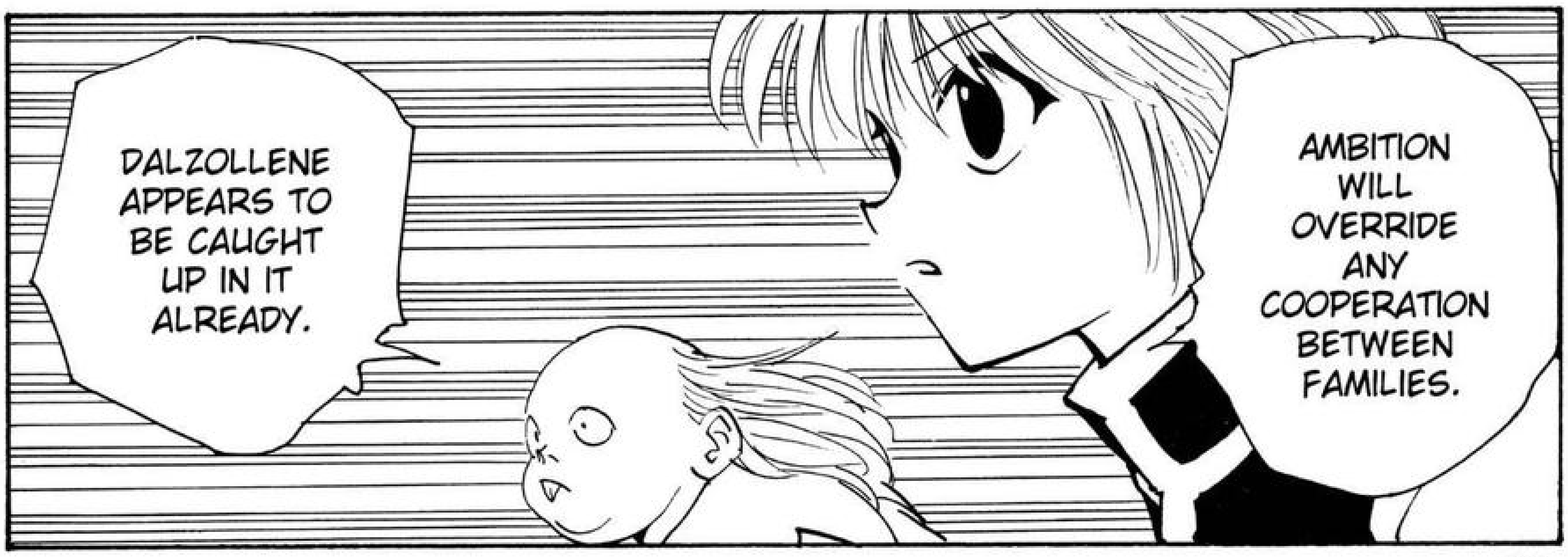

INFORM ALL THE FAMILIES IN YORKNEW!!
FOLLOW ANY SUSPICIOUS BLIMPS AND TAKE THEM DOWN!!
TAKE THEIR LEADER ALIVE!!
A REWARD WILL BE OFFERED FROM THE COMMUNITY TO THE FAMILY THAT CATCHES THEM!!


ALL RIGHT!!
WE'LL CAPTURE THESE THIEVES OURSELVES!!

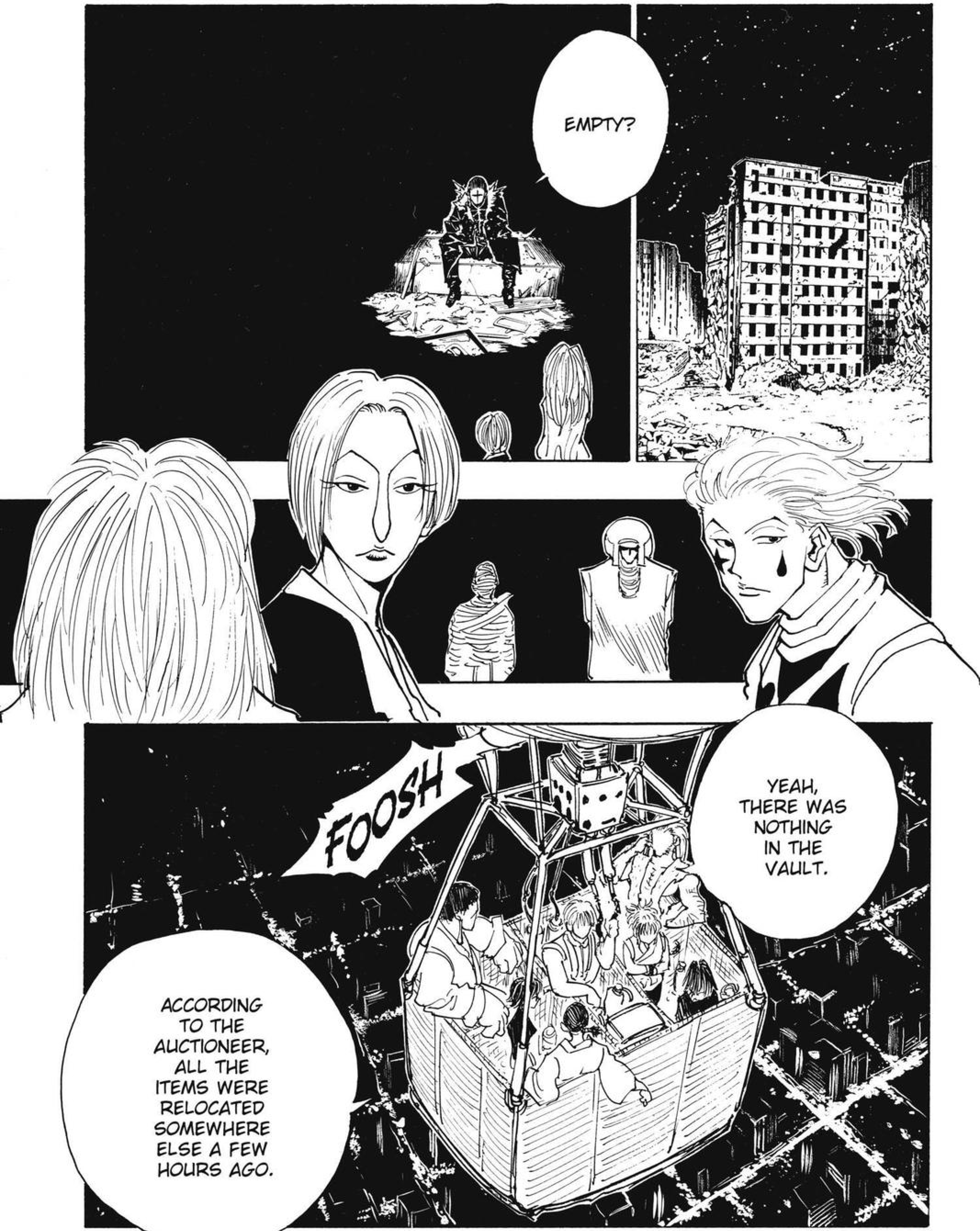

I'M HEADING OVER!!
WE'LL MEET AT THE OVERPASS ALONG CENTRAL SQUARE!!
SQUALA, LEAVE FIVE DOGS BEHIND, JUST IN CASE!!

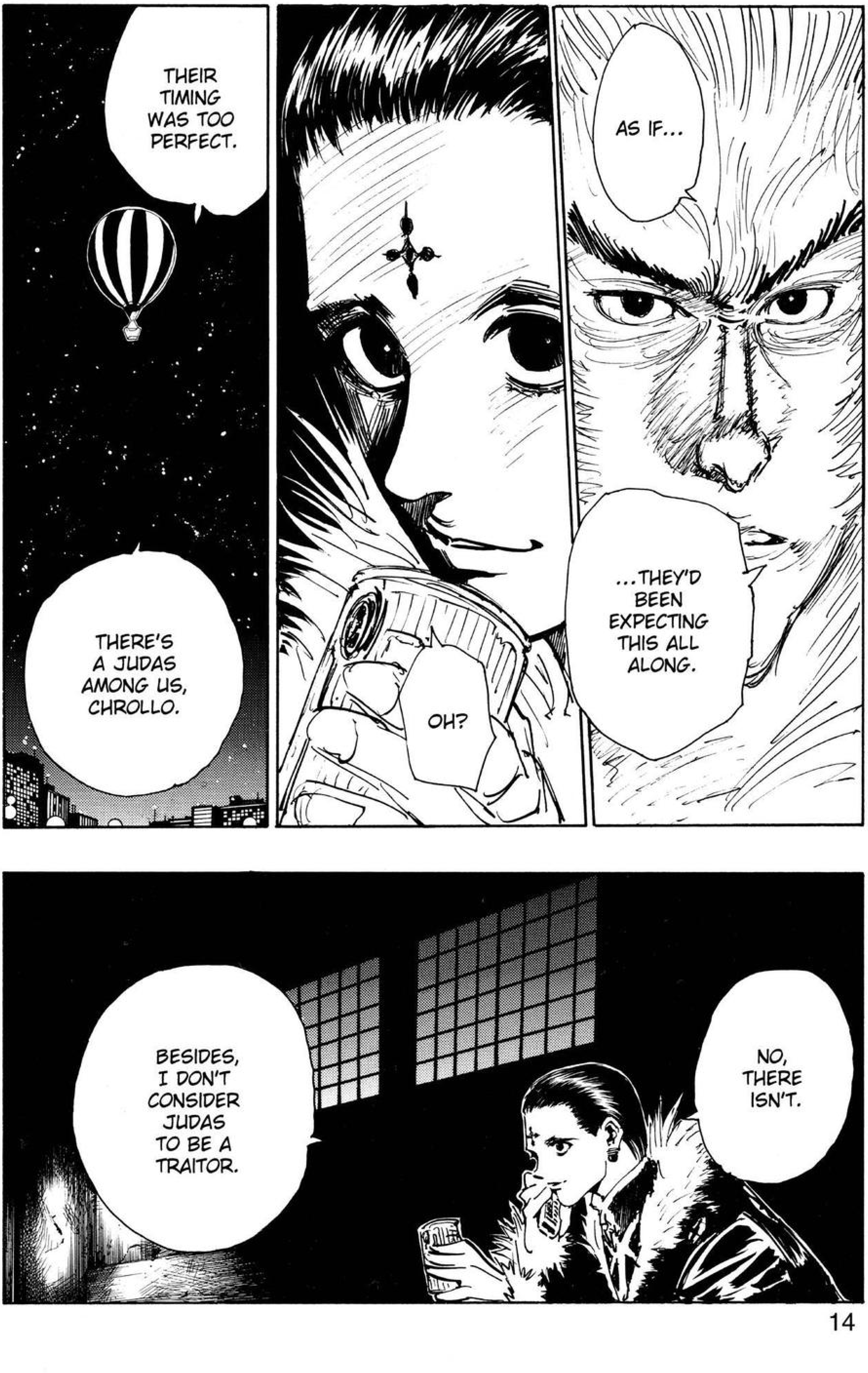

DON'T LET THE BOSS OUT OF YOUR SIGHT!!
AND DON'T LET ANYONE IN!
OKAY!

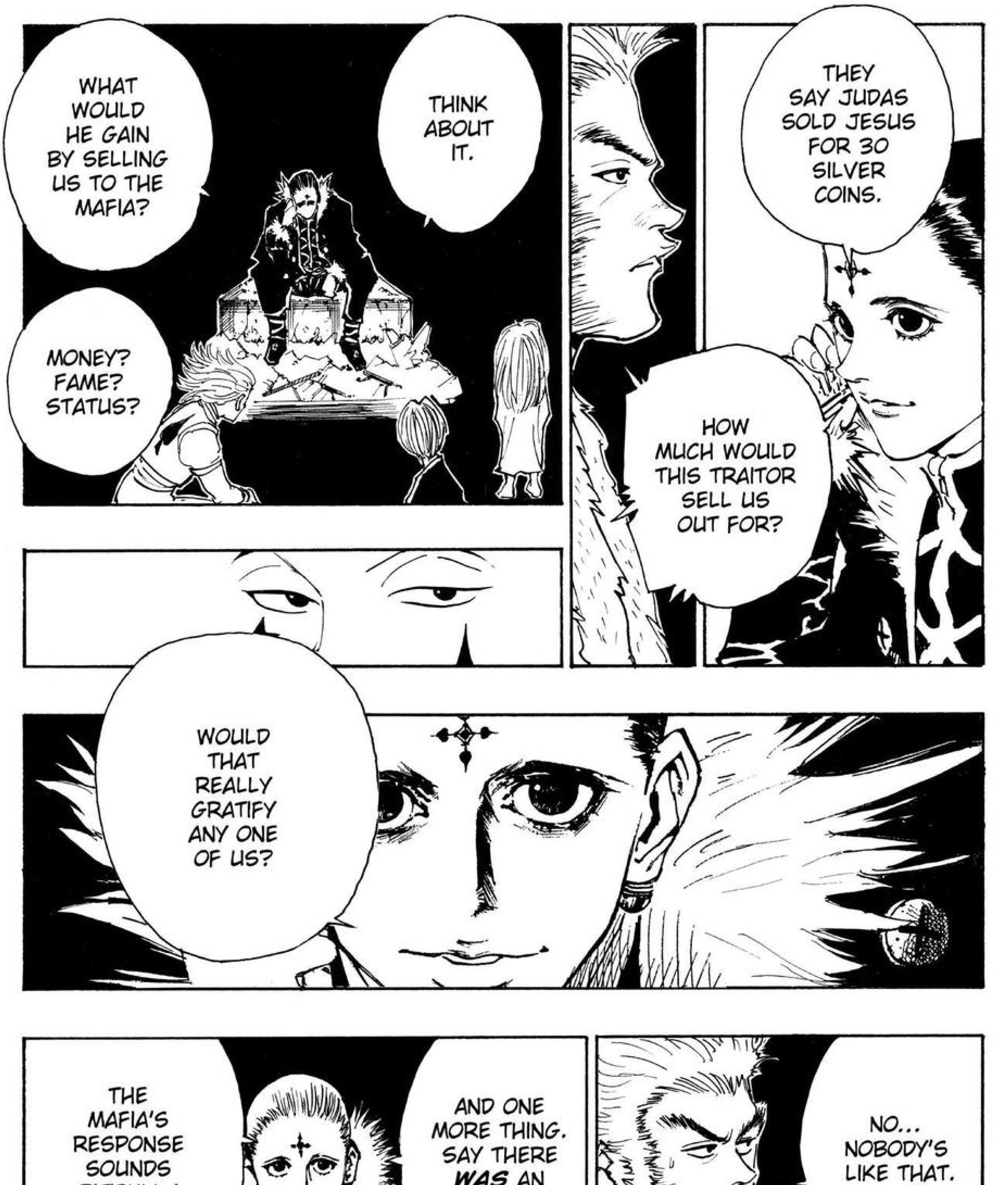

OFFERING A REWARD WILL BACKFIRE.
YEAH.

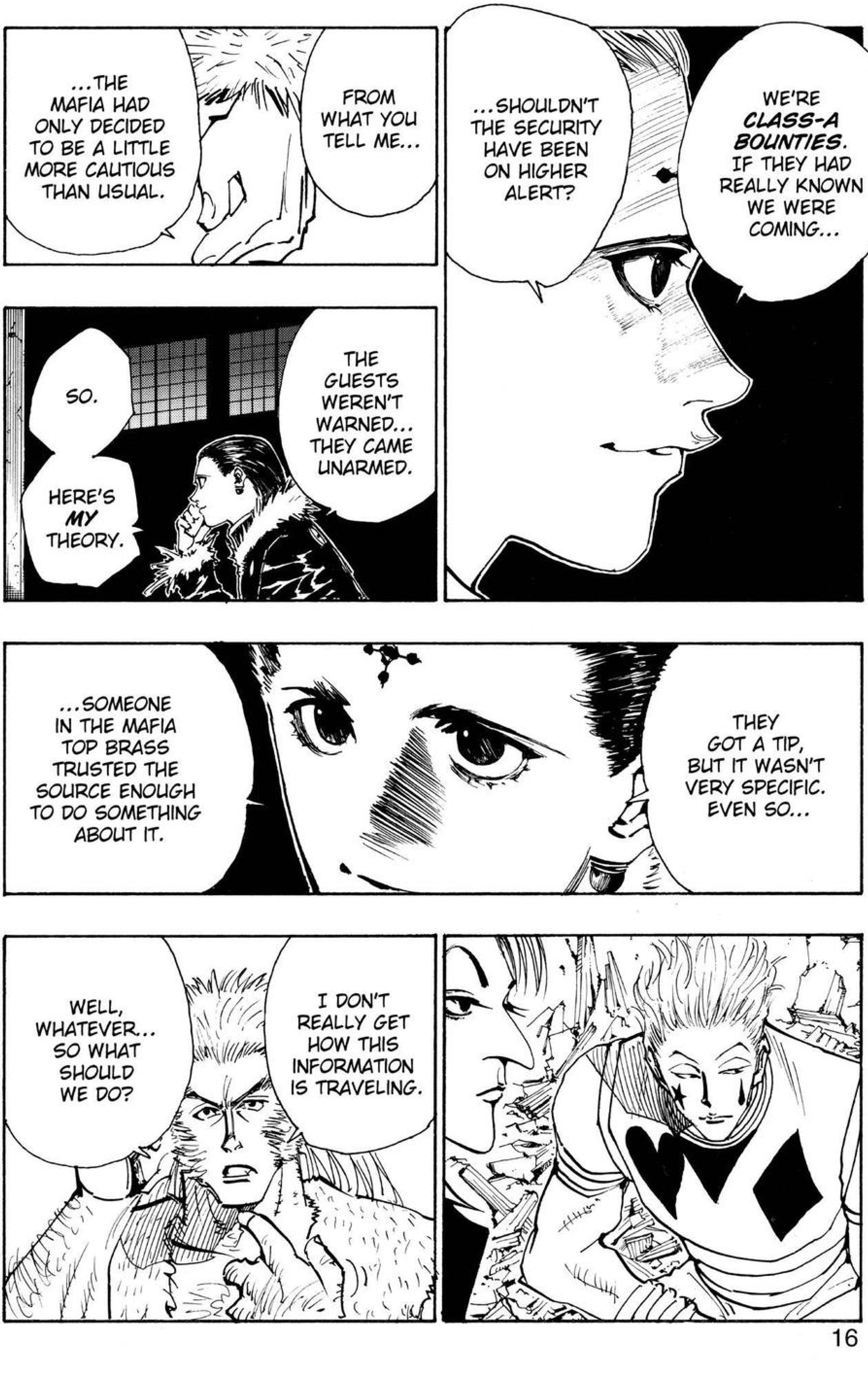

AMBITION WILL OVERRIDE ANY COOPERATION BETWEEN FAMILIES.
DALZOLLENE APPEARS TO BE CAUGHT UP IN IT ALREADY.

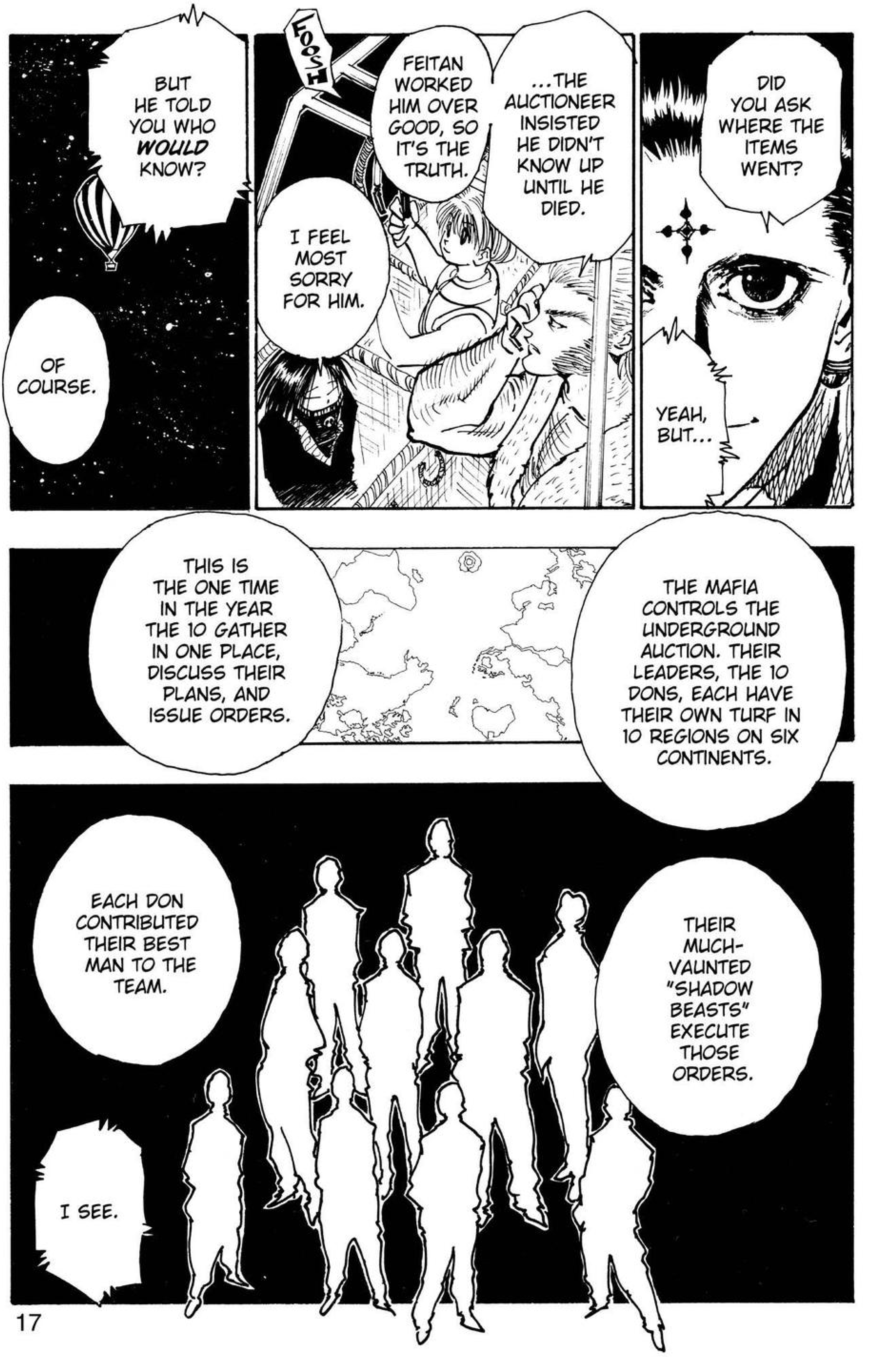
READ THIS WAY

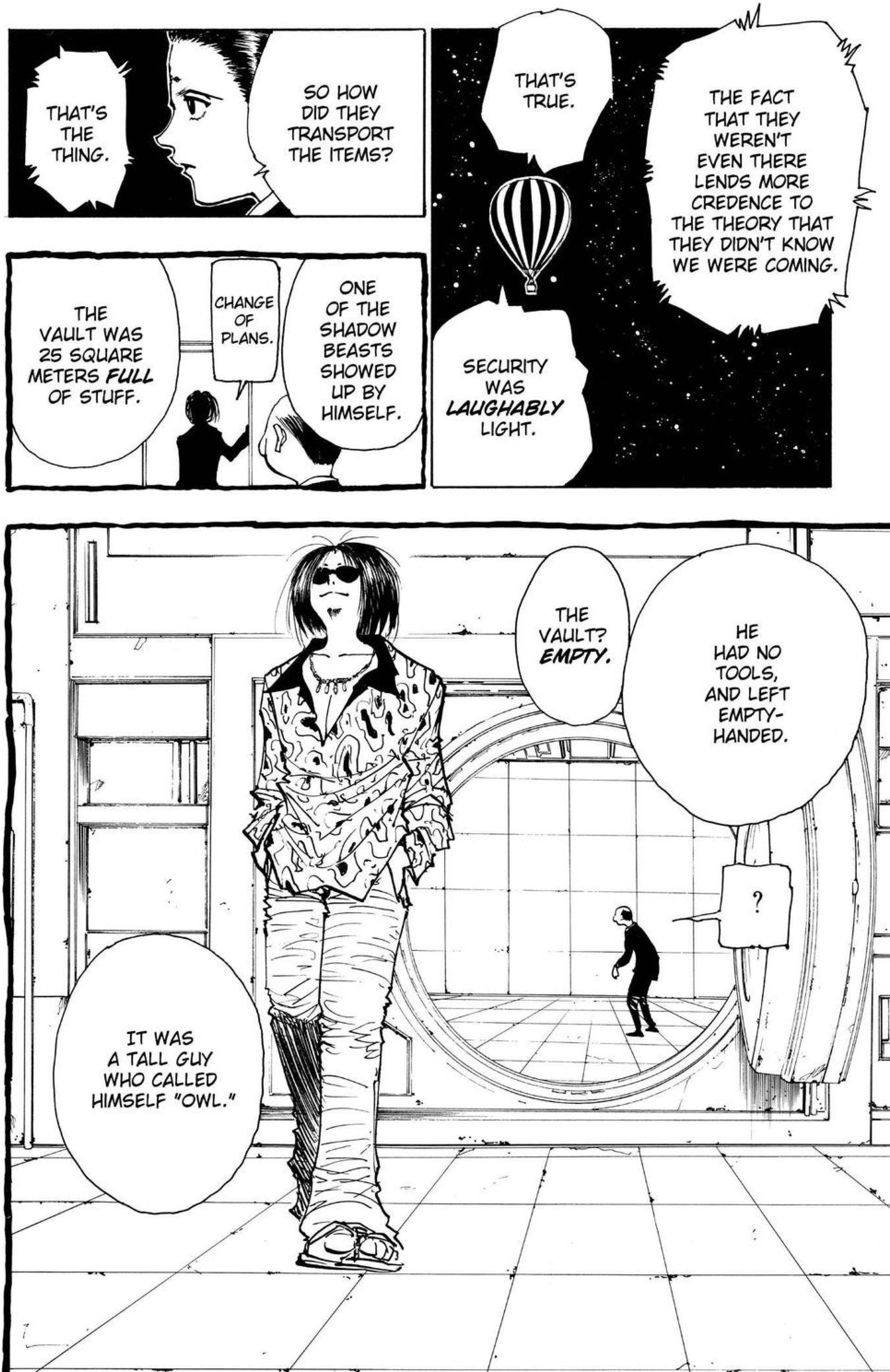

EMPTY?
FOOSH
YEAH, THERE WAS NOTHING IN THE VAULT.
ACCORDING TO THE AUCTIONEER, ALL THE ITEMS WERE RELOCATED SOMEWHERE ELSE A FEW HOURS AGO.


AS IF...
...THEY'D BEEN EXPECTING THIS ALL ALONG.
OH?
THEIR TIMING WAS TOO PERFECT.
THERE'S A JUDAS AMONG US, CHROLLO.
NO, THERE ISN'T.
BESIDES, I DON'T CONSIDER JUDAS TO BE A TRAITOR.

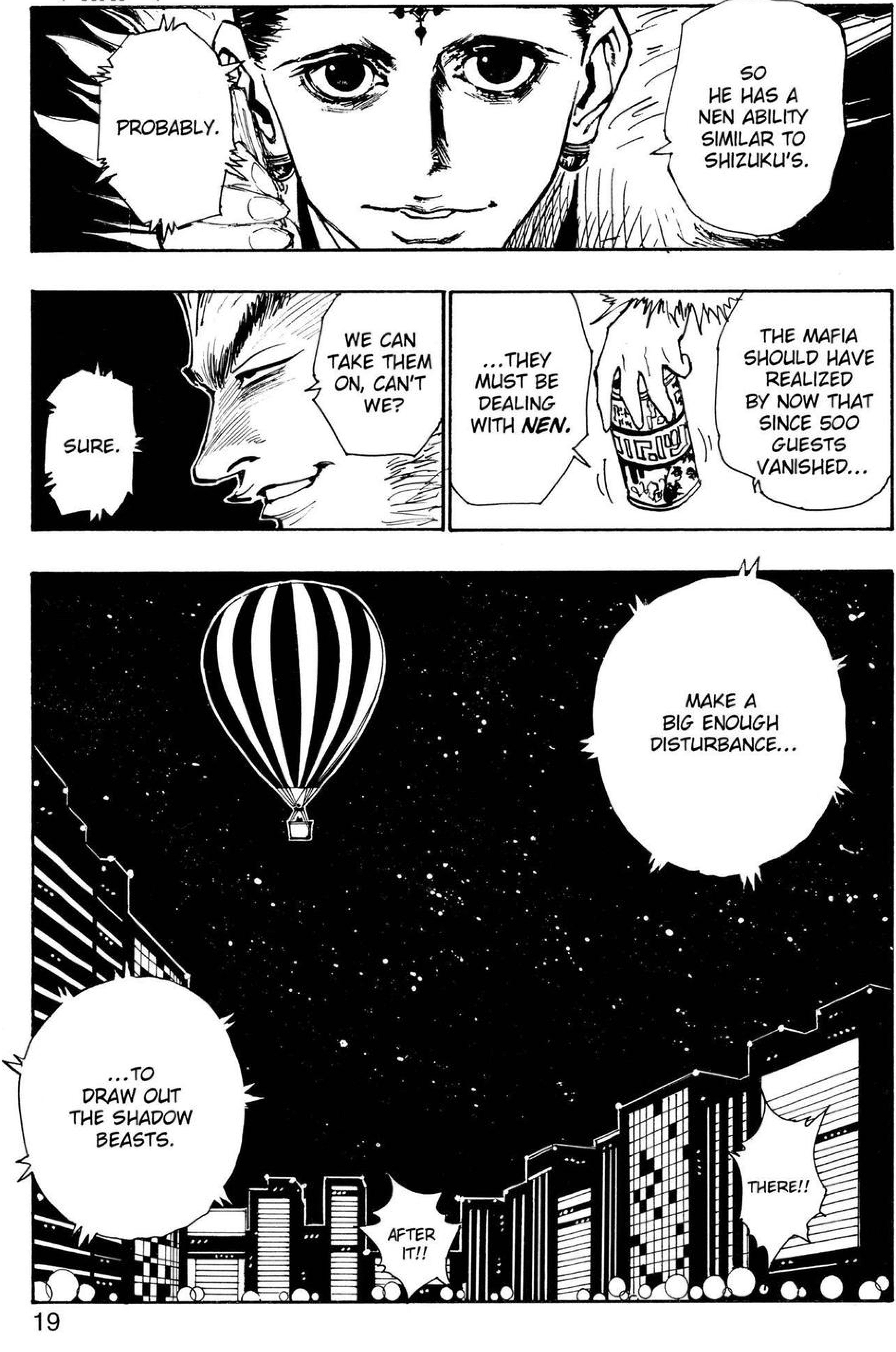

THEY SAY JUDAS SOLD JESUS FOR 30 SILVER COINS.
HOW MUCH WOULD THIS TRAITOR SELL US OUT FOR?
THINK ABOUT IT.
WHAT WOULD HE GAIN BY SELLING US TO THE MAFIA?
MONEY? FAME? STATUS?
WOULD THAT REALLY GRATIFY ANY ONE OF US?
NO... NOBODY'S LIKE THAT.
RIGHT?
AND ONE MORE THING. SAY THERE *WAS* AN INFORMANT.
THE MAFIA'S RESPONSE SOUNDS PITIFULLY INADEQUATE.


WE'RE **CLASS-A BOUNTIES.** IF THEY HAD REALLY KNOWN WE WERE COMING...
...SHOULDN'T THE SECURITY HAVE BEEN ON HIGHER ALERT?
FROM WHAT YOU TELL ME...
...THE MAFIA HAD ONLY DECIDED TO BE A LITTLE MORE CAUTIOUS THAN USUAL.
THE GUESTS WEREN'T WARNED... THEY CAME UNARMED.
SO.
HERE'S ***MY*** THEORY.
THEY GOT A TIP, BUT IT WASN'T VERY SPECIFIC. EVEN SO...
...SOMEONE IN THE MAFIA TOP BRASS TRUSTED THE SOURCE ENOUGH TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT IT.
I DON'T REALLY GET HOW THIS INFORMATION IS TRAVELING.
WELL, WHATEVER... SO WHAT SHOULD WE DO?

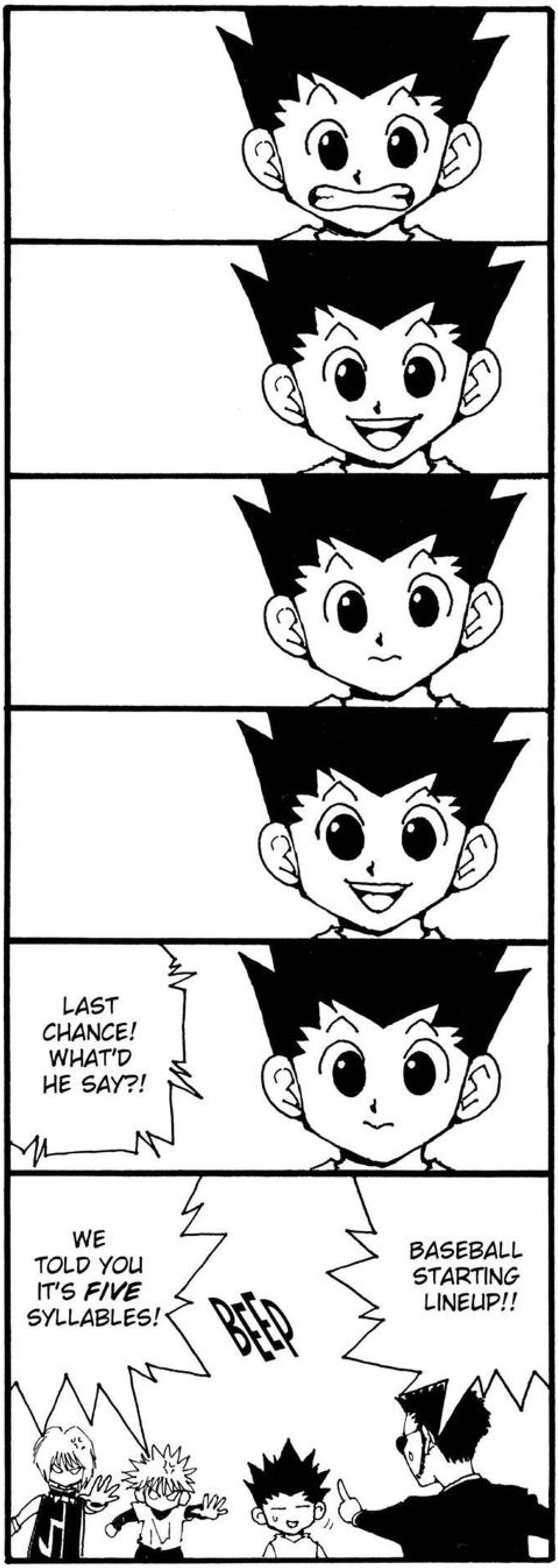

DID YOU ASK WHERE THE ITEMS WENT?
YEAH, BUT...
...THE AUCTIONEER INSISTED HE DIDN'T KNOW UP UNTIL HE DIED.
FEITAN WORKED HIM OVER GOOD, SO IT'S THE TRUTH.
FOOSH
I FEEL MOST SORRY FOR HIM.
BUT HE TOLD YOU WHO *WOULD* KNOW?
OF COURSE.
THE MAFIA CONTROLS THE UNDERGROUND AUCTION. THEIR LEADERS, THE 10 DONS, EACH HAVE THEIR OWN TURF IN 10 REGIONS ON SIX CONTINENTS.
THIS IS THE ONE TIME IN THE YEAR THE 10 GATHER IN ONE PLACE, DISCUSS THEIR PLANS, AND ISSUE ORDERS.
THEIR MUCH-VAUNTED "SHADOW BEASTS" EXECUTE THOSE ORDERS.
EACH DON CONTRIBUTED THEIR BEST MAN TO THE TEAM.
I SEE.


THAT'S TRUE.
THE FACT THAT THEY WEREN'T EVEN THERE LENDS MORE CREDENCE TO THE THEORY THAT THEY DIDN'T KNOW WE WERE COMING.
SECURITY WAS *LAUGHABLY* LIGHT.
SO HOW DID THEY TRANSPORT THE ITEMS?
THAT'S THE THING.
ONE OF THE SHADOW BEASTS SHOWED UP BY HIMSELF.
CHANGE OF PLANS.
THE VAULT WAS 25 SQUARE METERS *FULL* OF STUFF.
HE HAD NO TOOLS, AND LEFT EMPTY-HANDED.
THE VAULT? *EMPTY.*
?
IT WAS A TALL GUY WHO CALLED HIMSELF "OWL."

READ THIS WAY


SO HE HAS A NEN ABILITY SIMILAR TO SHIZUKU'S.
PROBABLY.
THE MAFIA SHOULD HAVE REALIZED BY NOW THAT SINCE 500 GUESTS VANISHED...
...THEY MUST BE DEALING WITH **NEN.**
WE CAN TAKE THEM ON, CAN'T WE?
SURE.
MAKE A BIG ENOUGH DISTURBANCE...
...TO DRAW OUT THE SHADOW BEASTS.
THERE!!
AFTER IT!!

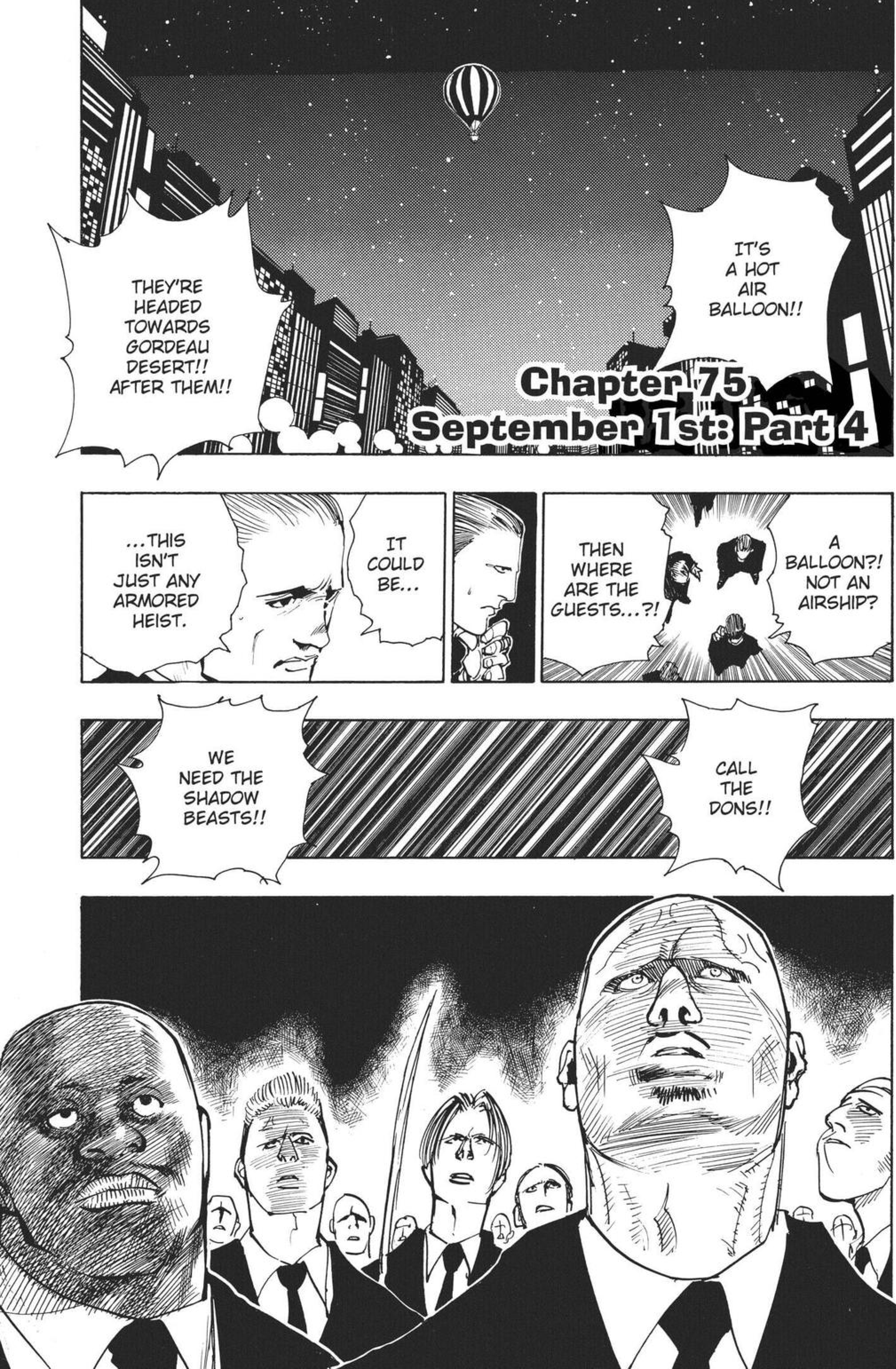
"TWO THOUSAND"


LAST CHANCE! WHAT'D HE SAY?!
BASEBALL STARTING LINEUP!!
BEEP
WE TOLD YOU IT'S *FIVE* SYLLABLES!

GON IS MOUTHING, "NI-SE-N-NE-N," WHICH SPELLS OUT "THE YEAR 2000" IN JAPANESE. -ED.

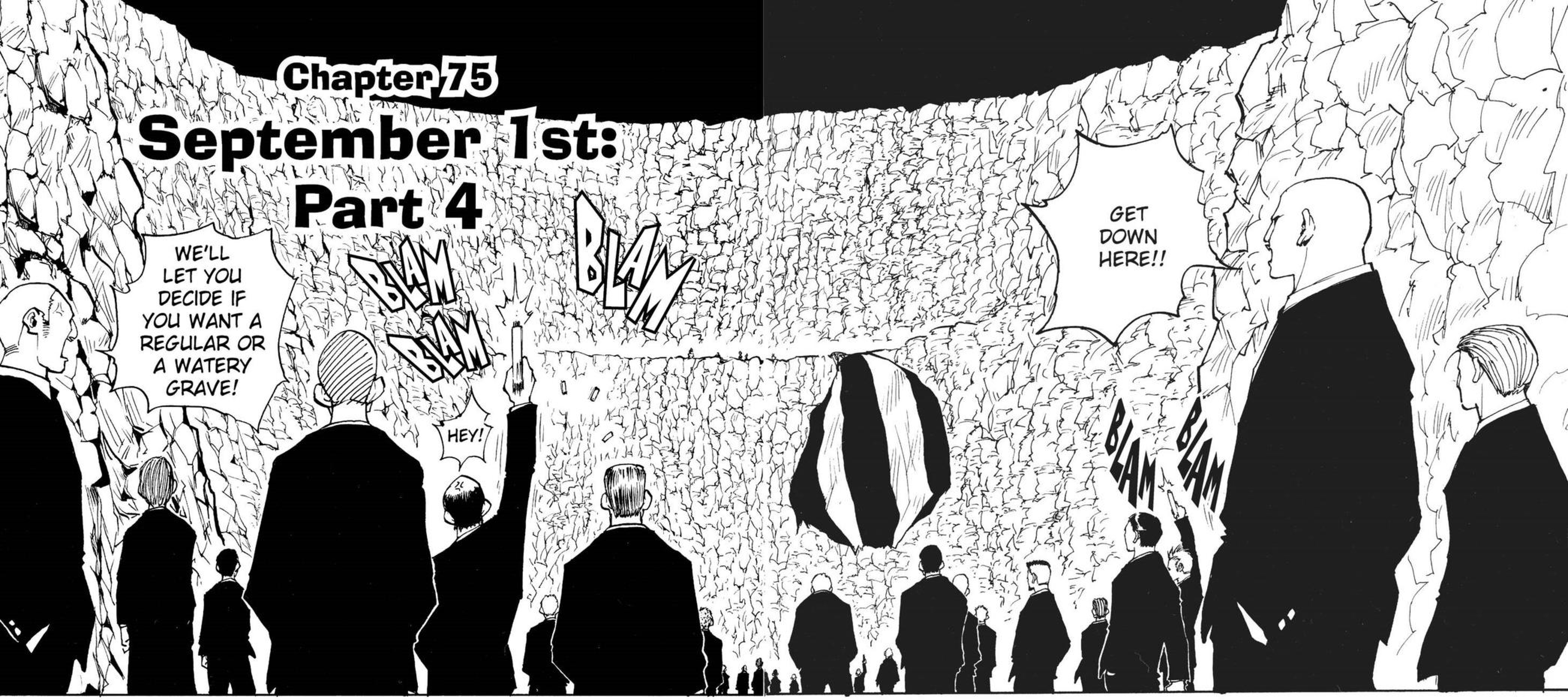
THIS STRIP WAS ORIGINALLY PUBLISHED IN E-JUMP, JAN. 18, 2000.

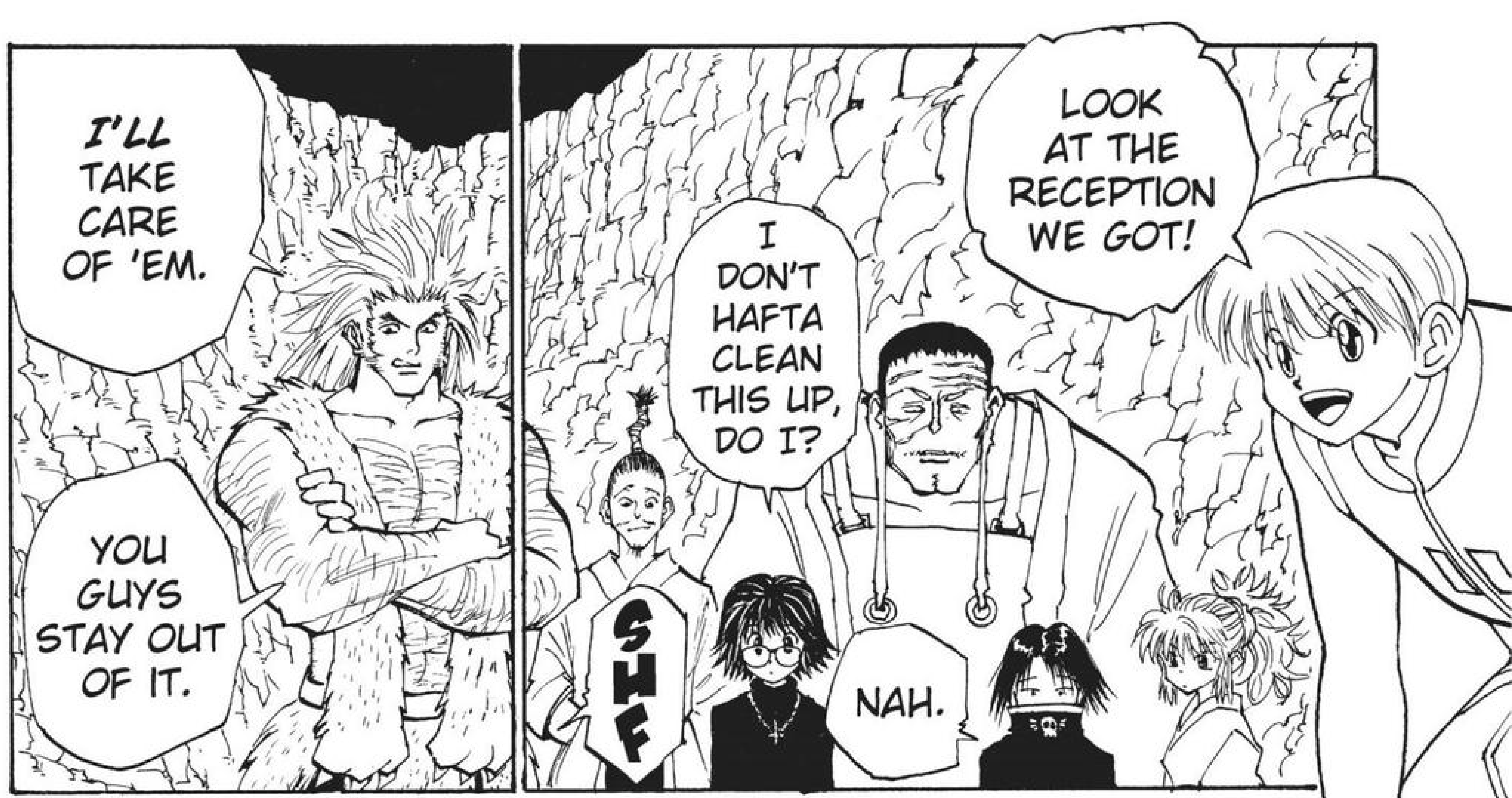
Chapter 75
September 1st: Part 4

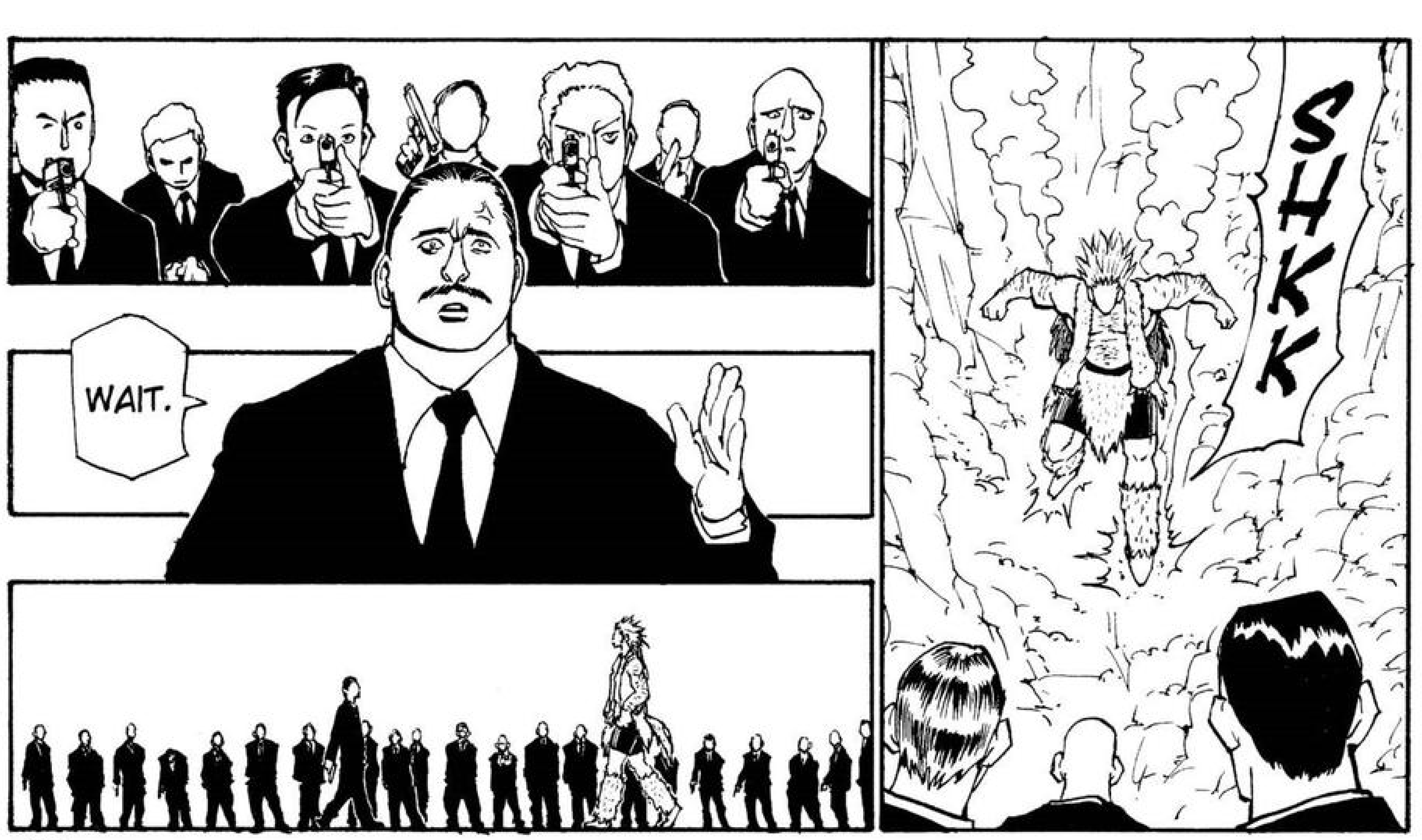

IT'S A HOT AIR BALLOON!!
THEY'RE HEADED TOWARDS GORDEAU DESERT!! AFTER THEM!!
A BALLOON?! NOT AN AIRSHIP?
THEN WHERE ARE THE GUESTS...?!
IT COULD BE...
...THIS ISN'T JUST ANY ARMORED HEIST.
CALL THE DONS!!
WE NEED THE SHADOW BEASTS!!

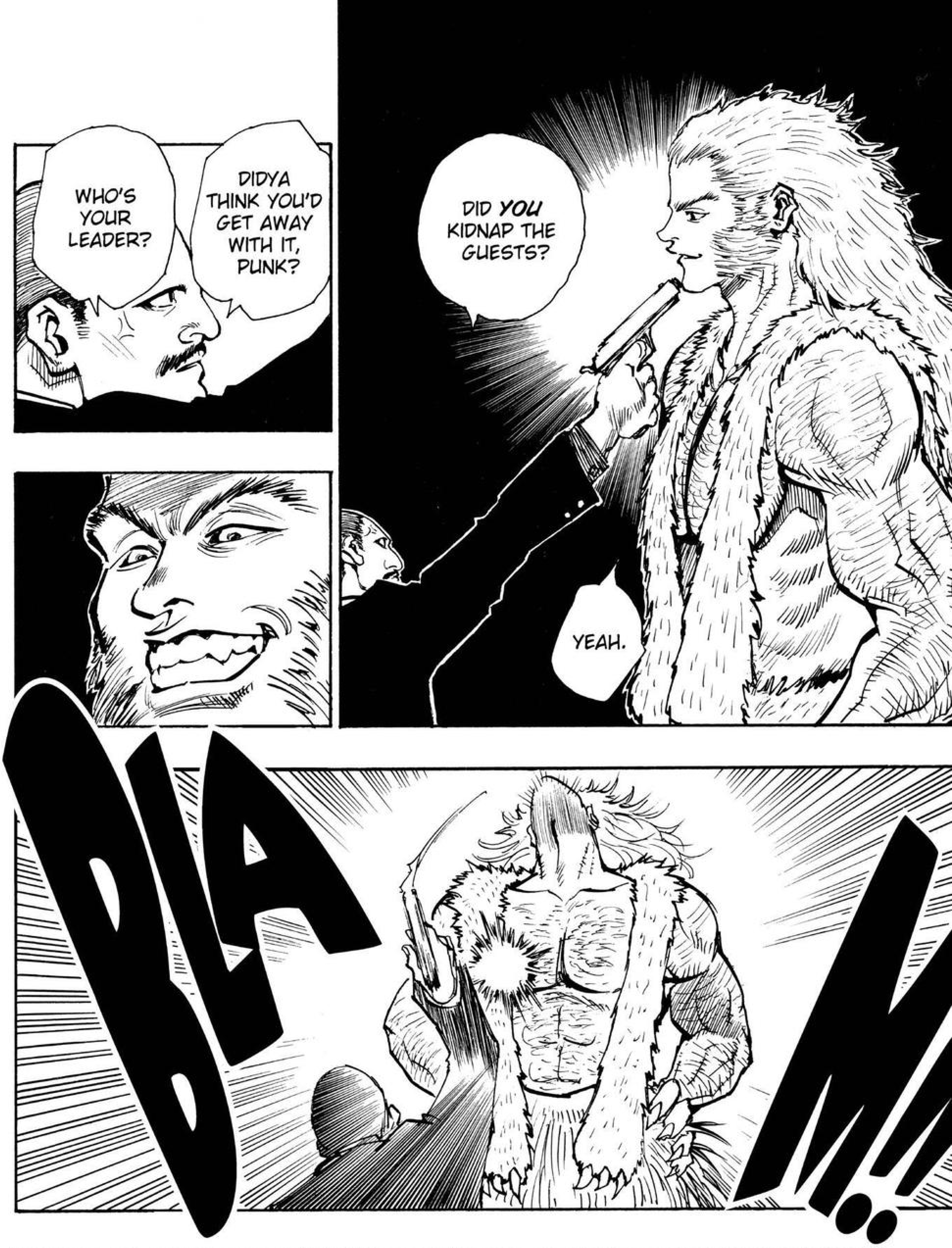
Chapter 75

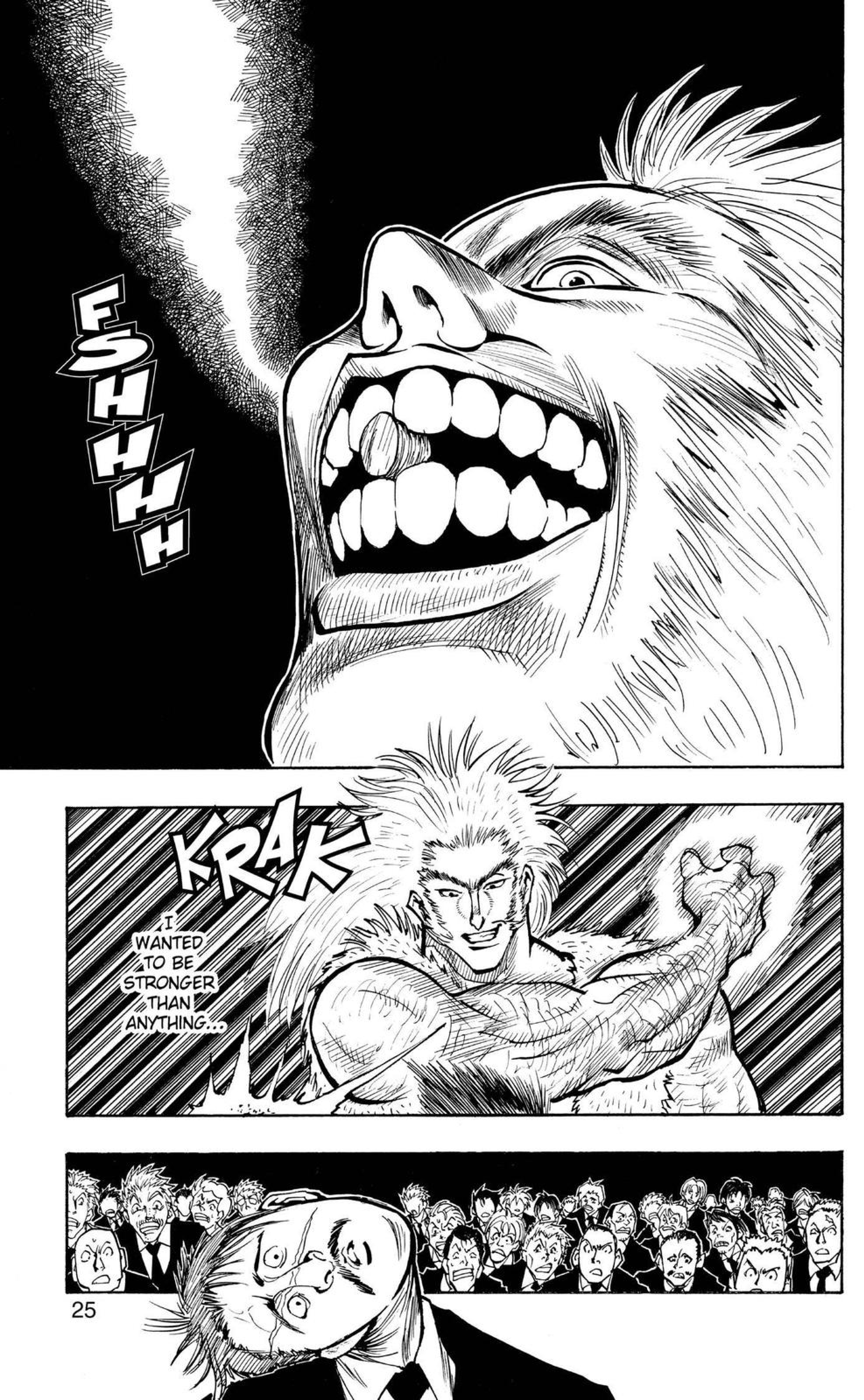
September 1st: Part 4

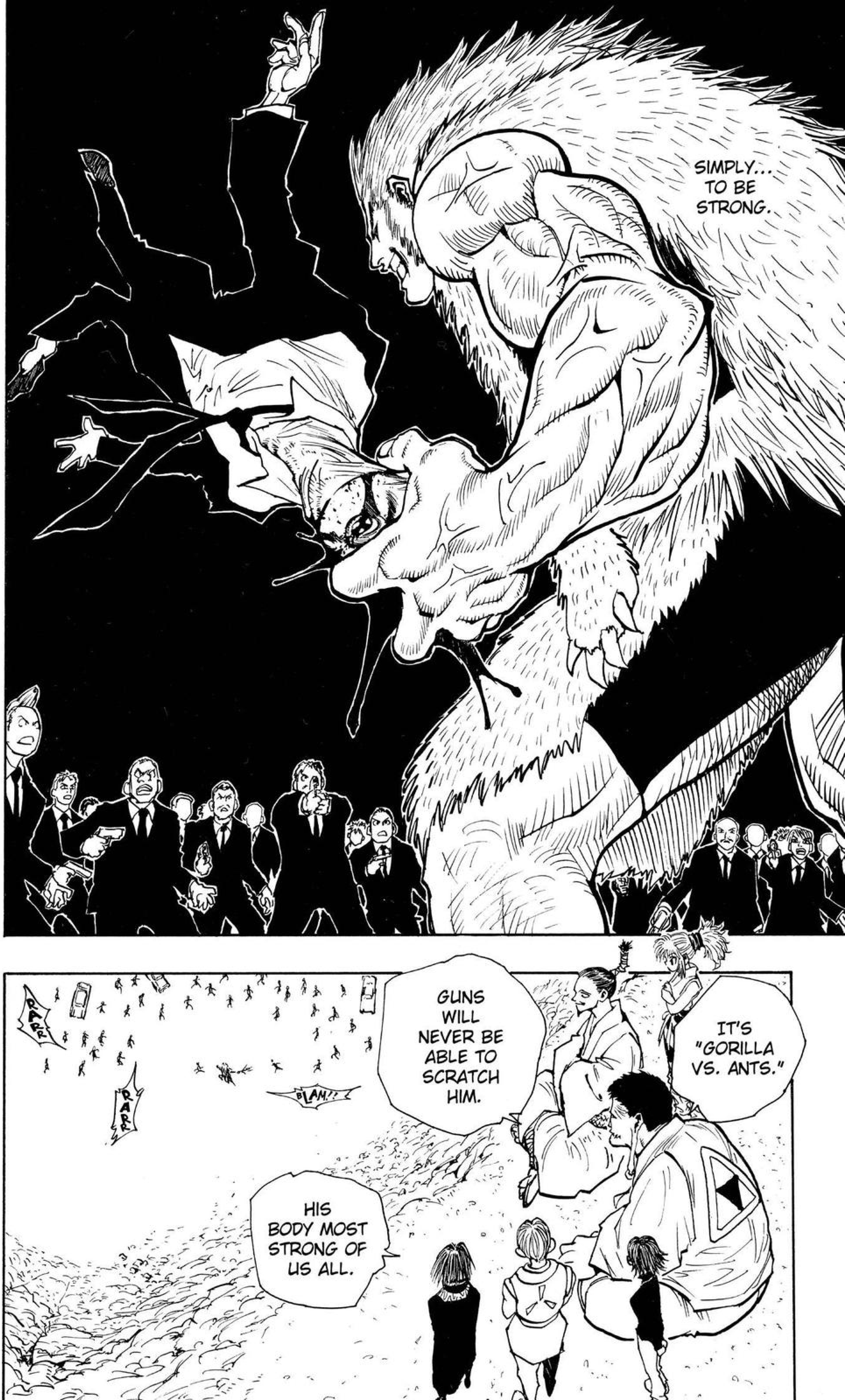

GET DOWN HERE!!
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
HEY!
WE'LL LET YOU DECIDE IF YOU WANT A REGULAR OR A WATERY GRAVE!


LOOK AT THE RECEPTION WE GOT!
I DON'T HAFTA CLEAN THIS UP, DO I?
NAH.
SHF
I'LL TAKE CARE OF 'EM.
YOU GUYS STAY OUT OF IT.

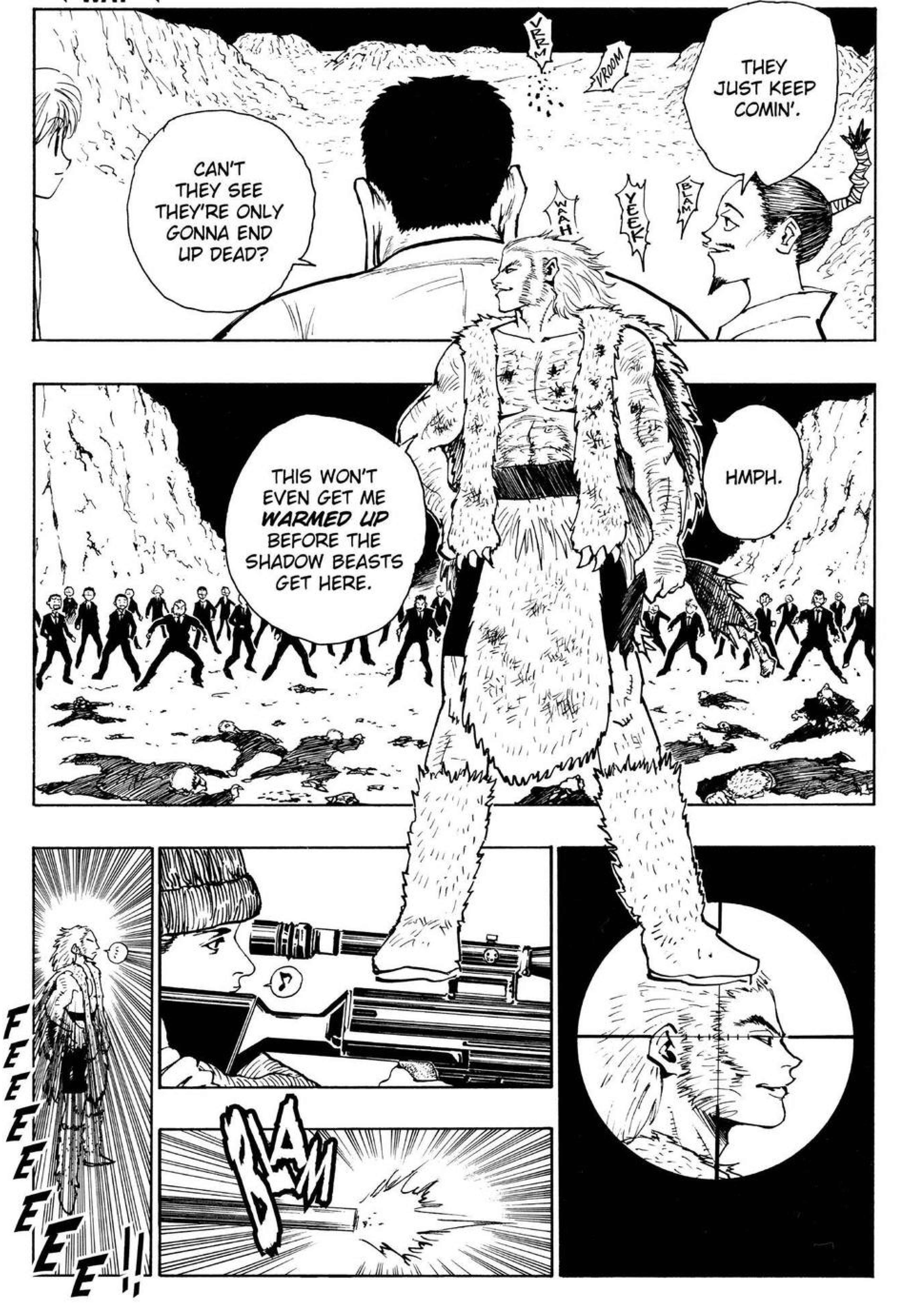


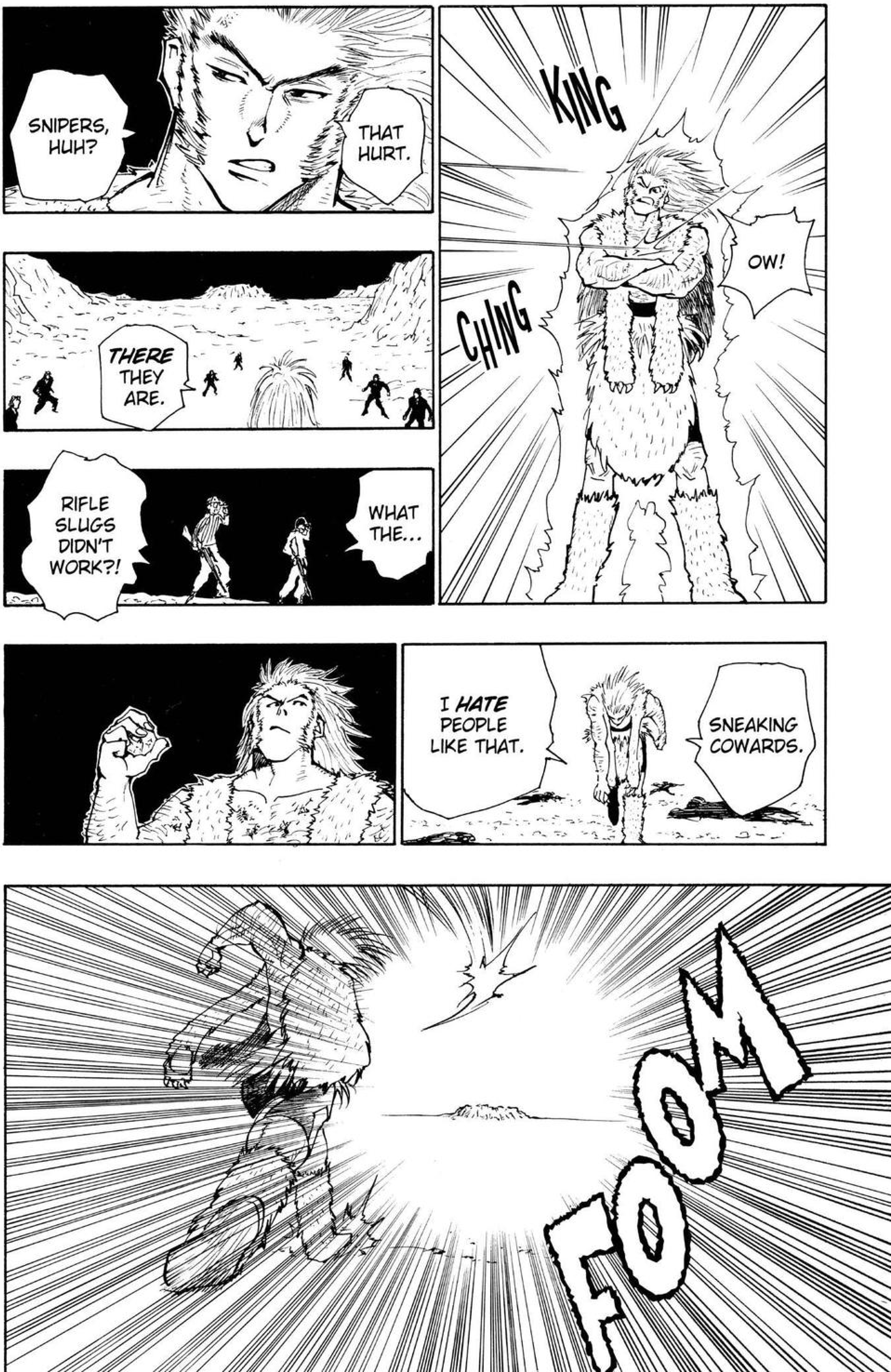

DID *YOU* KIDNAP THE GUESTS?
YEAH.
DIDYA THINK YOU'D GET AWAY WITH IT, PUNK?
WHO'S YOUR LEADER?
BLAM!!
. .
!!

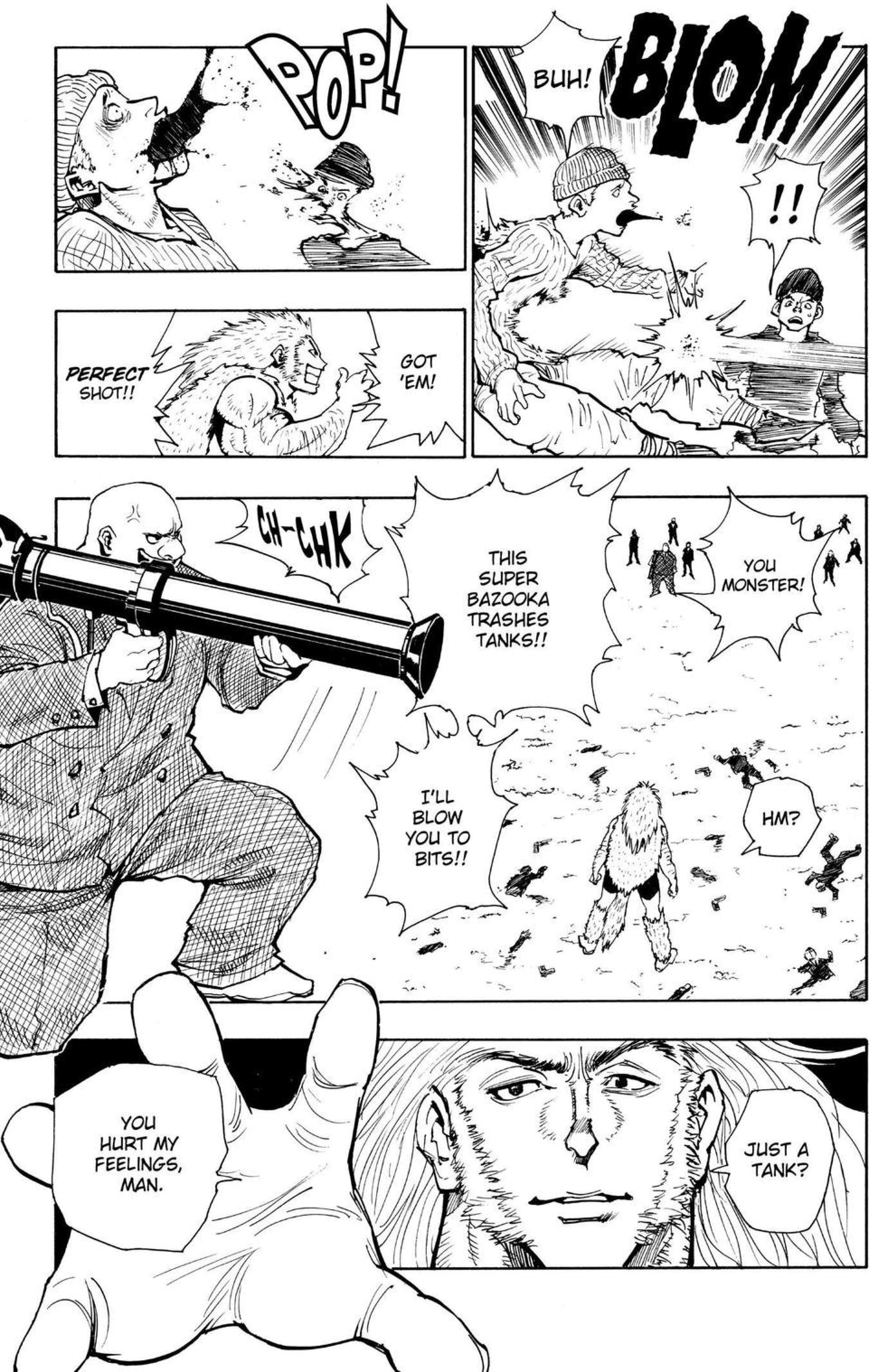

FSHHHH
KRAK
I WANTED TO BE STRONGER THAN ANYTHING...

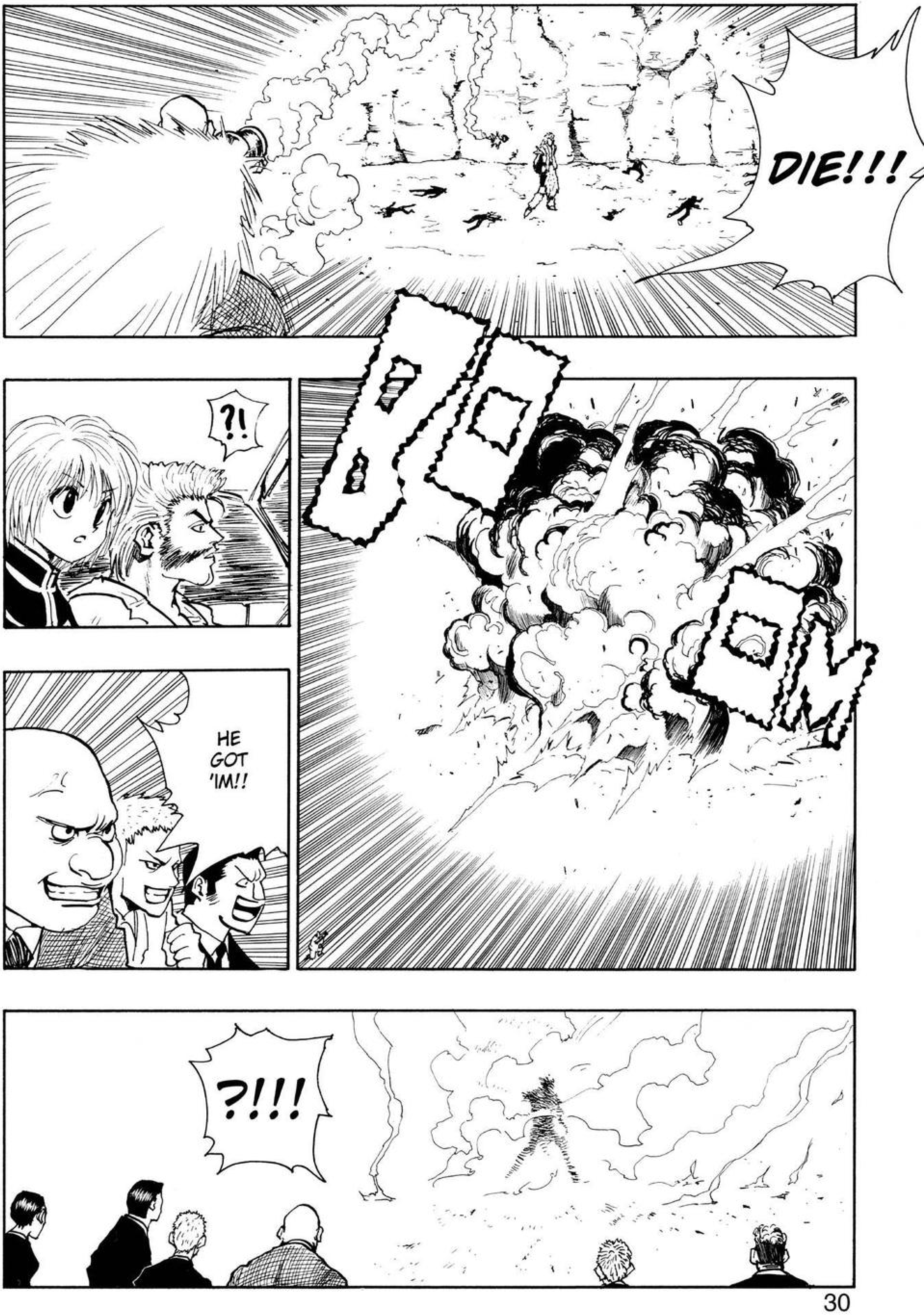

SIMPLY... TO BE STRONG.
IT'S "GORILLA VS. ANTS."
GUNS WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO SCRATCH HIM.
RARR
RARR
BLAM!!
HIS BODY MOST STRONG OF US ALL.

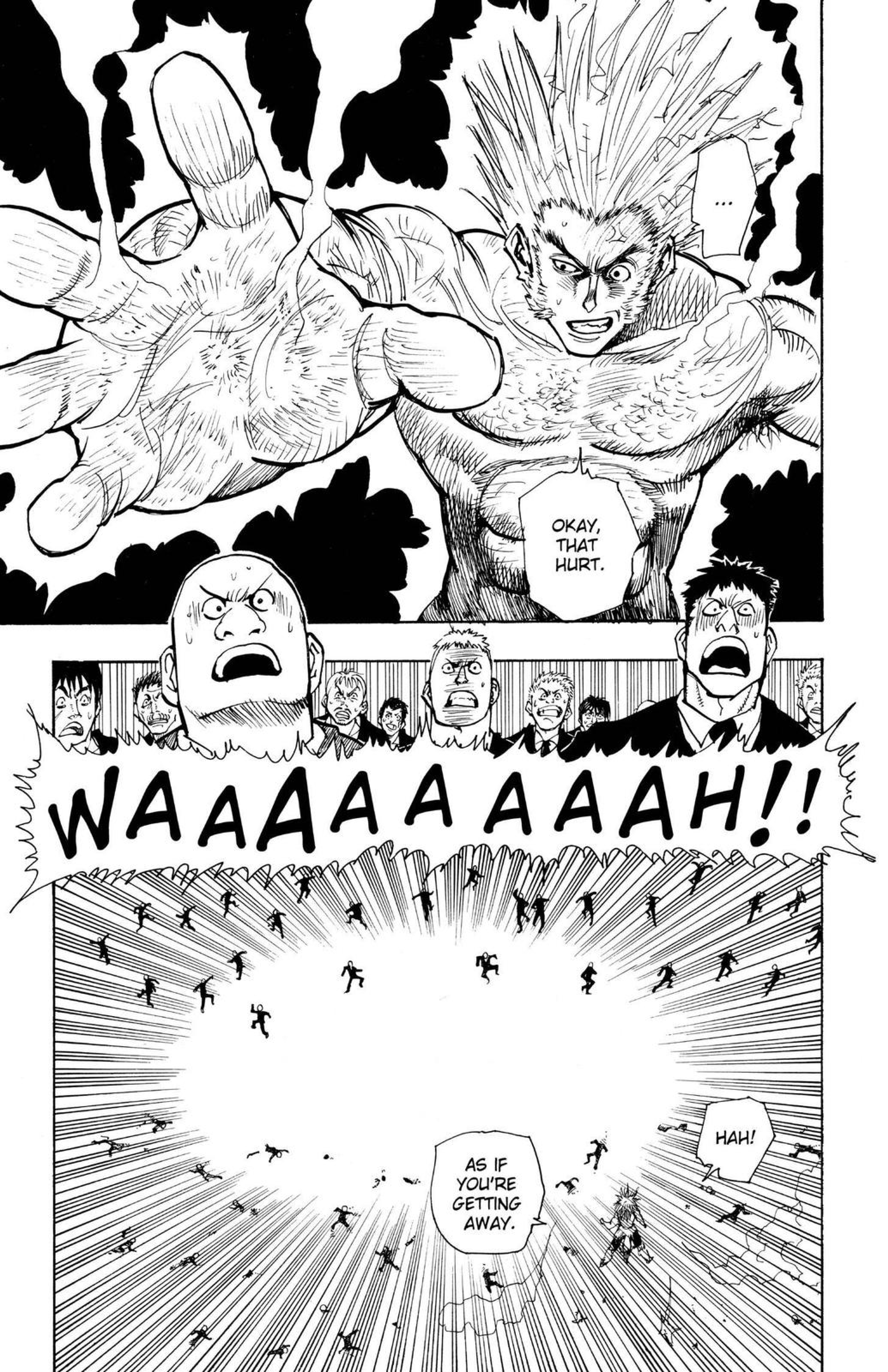
READ THIS WAY

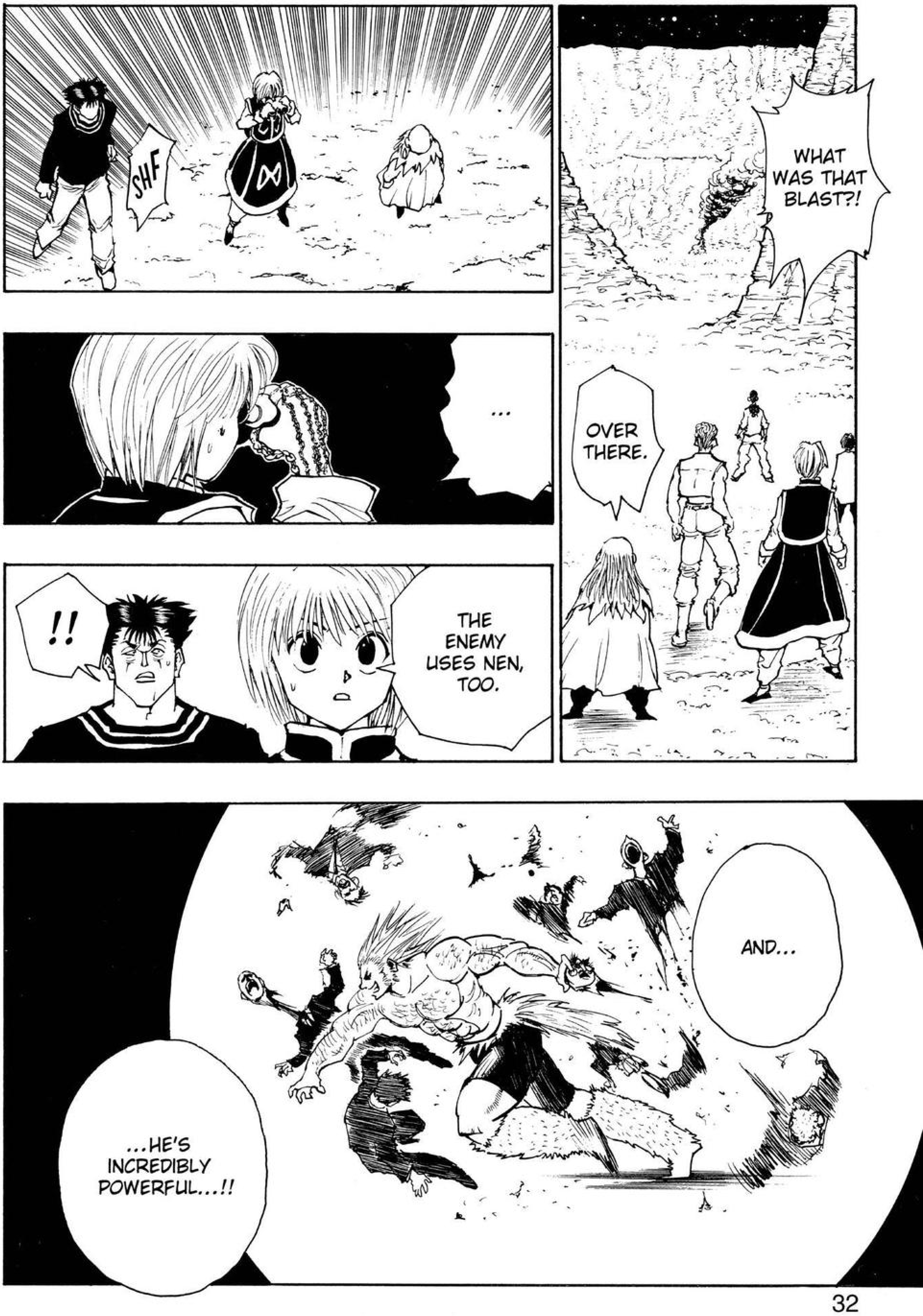

VRRM
VROOM
THEY JUST KEEP COMIN'.
BLAM
YEEK
WAAH
CAN'T THEY SEE THEY'RE ONLY GONNA END UP DEAD?
HMPH.
THIS WON'T EVEN GET ME ***WARMED UP*** BEFORE THE SHADOW BEASTS GET HERE.
♪
…
BAM
FEEEEEEEEE!!

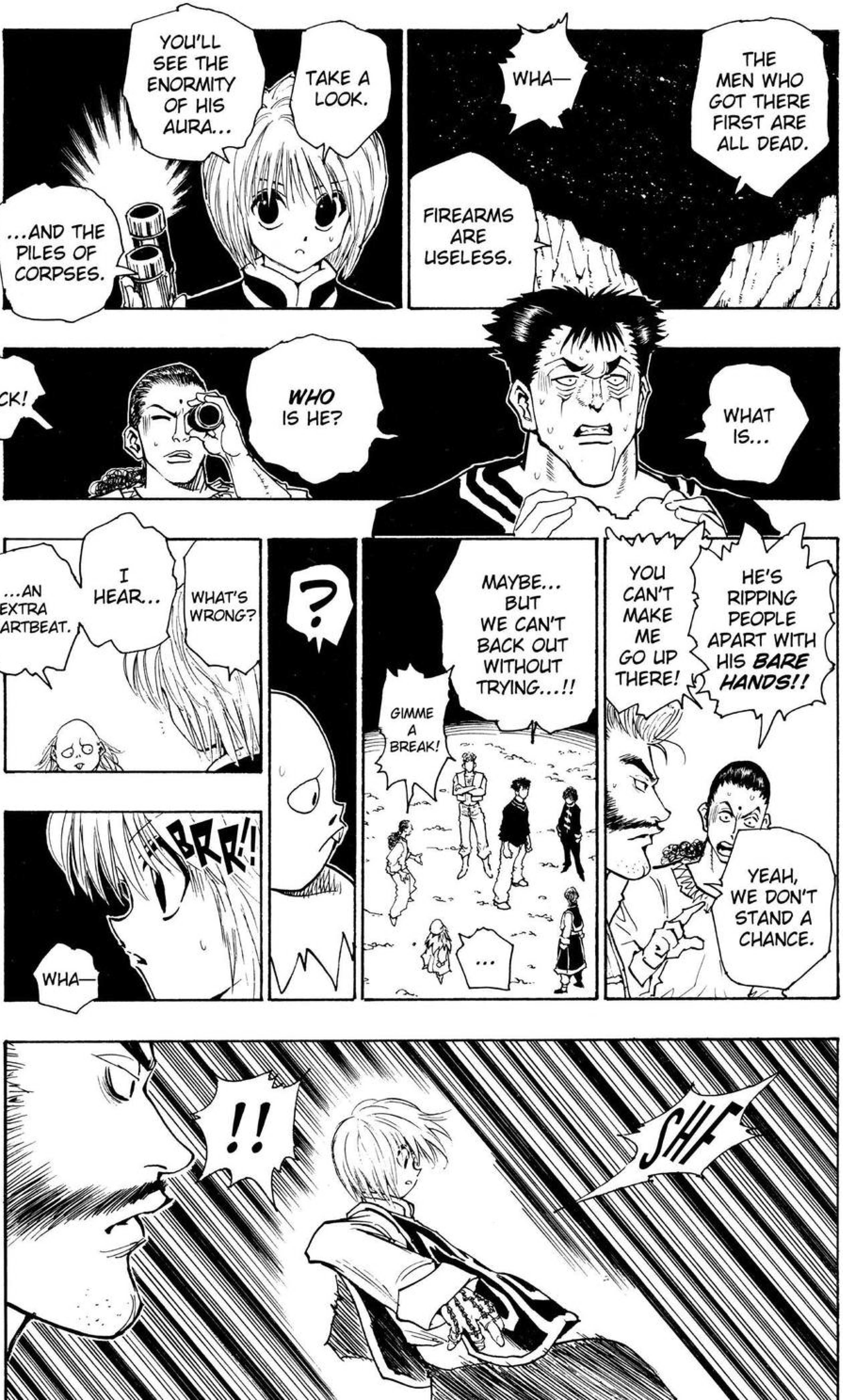

KING
CHING
OW!
THAT HURT.
SNIPERS, HUH?
THERE THEY ARE.
WHAT THE...
RIFLE SLUGS DIDN'T WORK?!
SNEAKING COWARDS.
I *HATE* PEOPLE LIKE THAT.
FOOM

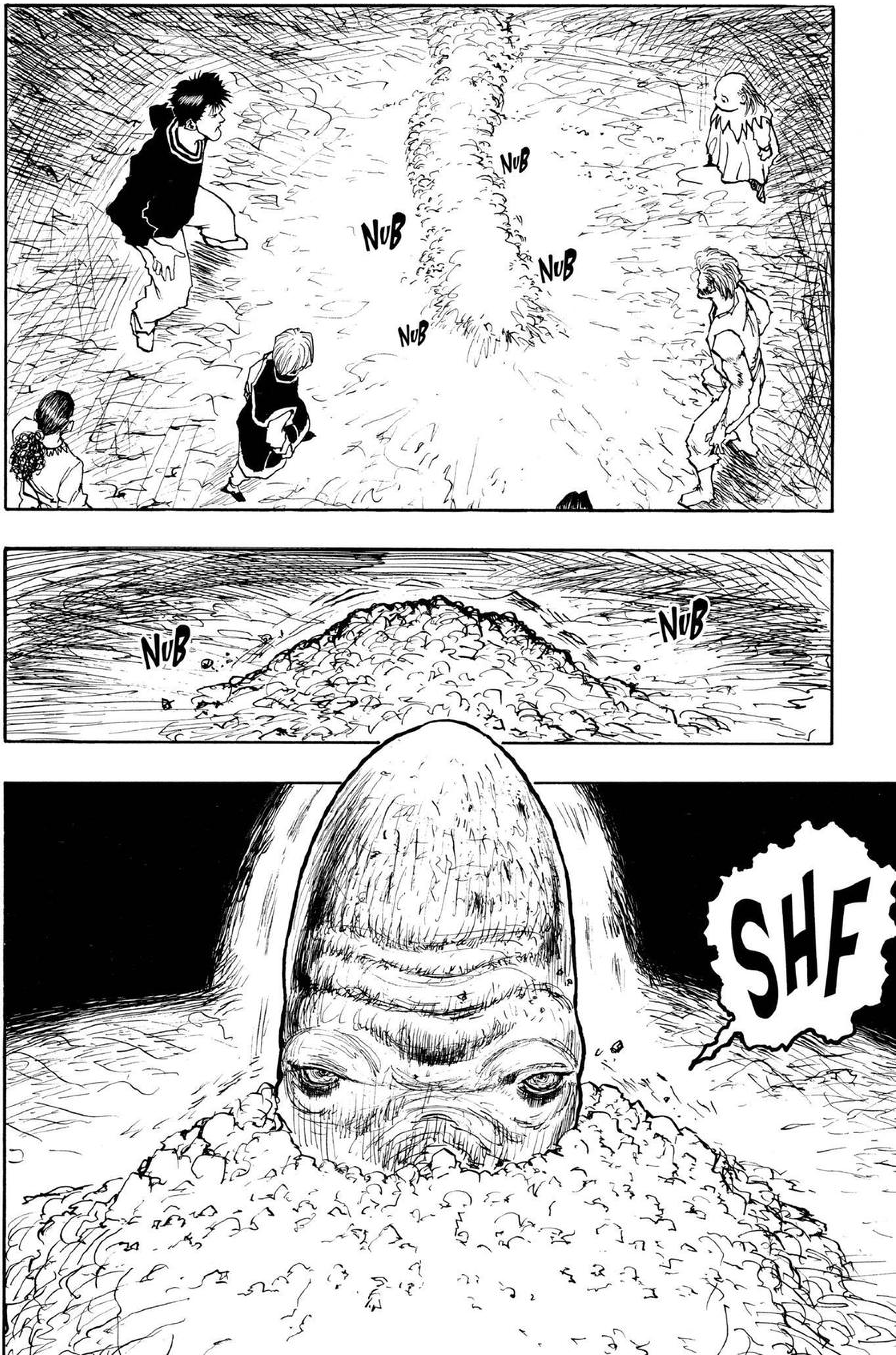

BUH!
BLOM
!!
POP!
GOT 'EM!
PERFECT SHOT!!
YOU MONSTER!
THIS SUPER BAZOOKA TRASHES TANKS!!
CH-CHK
HM?
I'LL BLOW YOU TO BITS!!
JUST A TANK?
YOU HURT MY FEELINGS, MAN.

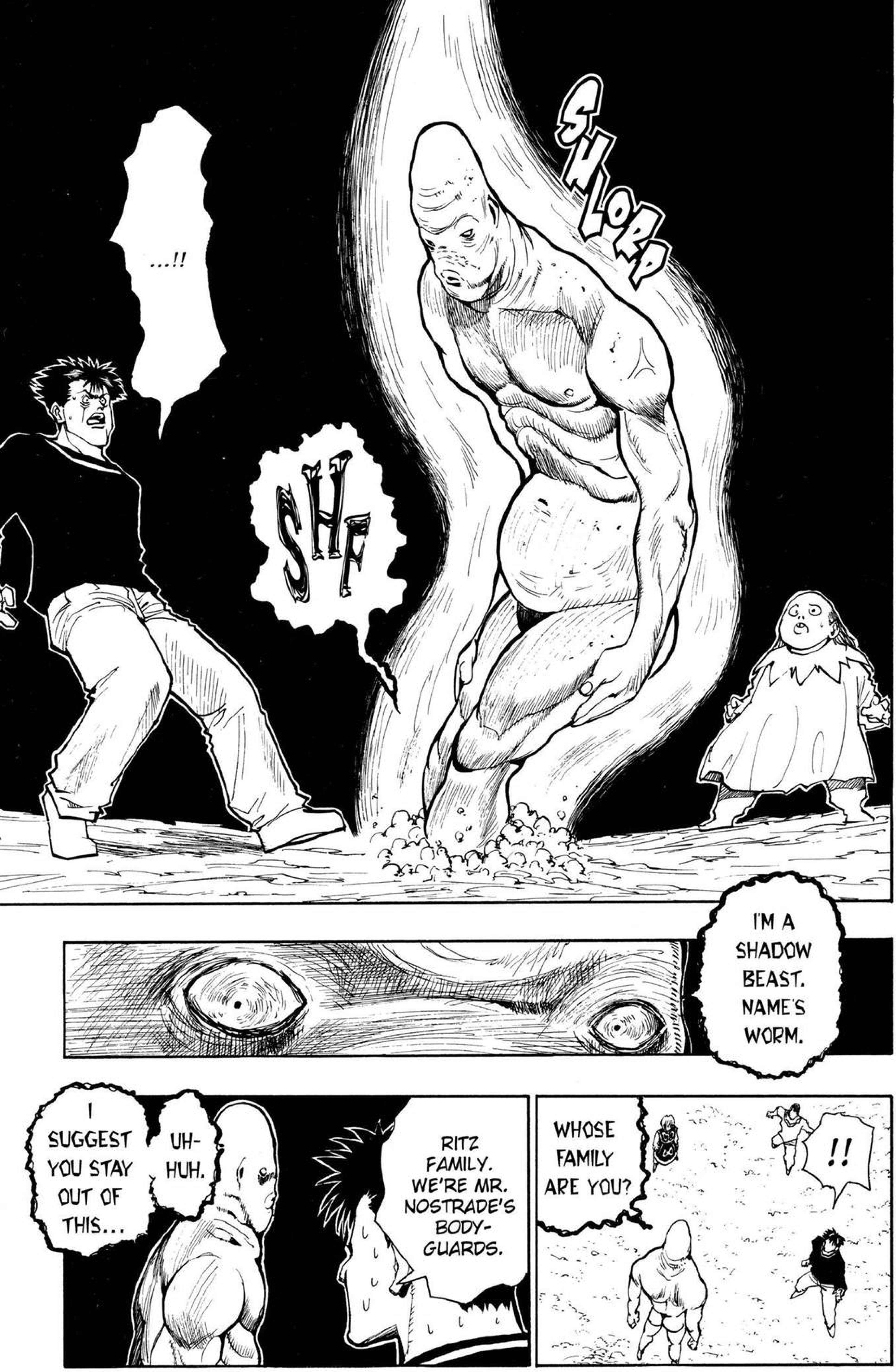

DIE!!!
DOOM
?!
HE GOT 'IM!!
?!!!

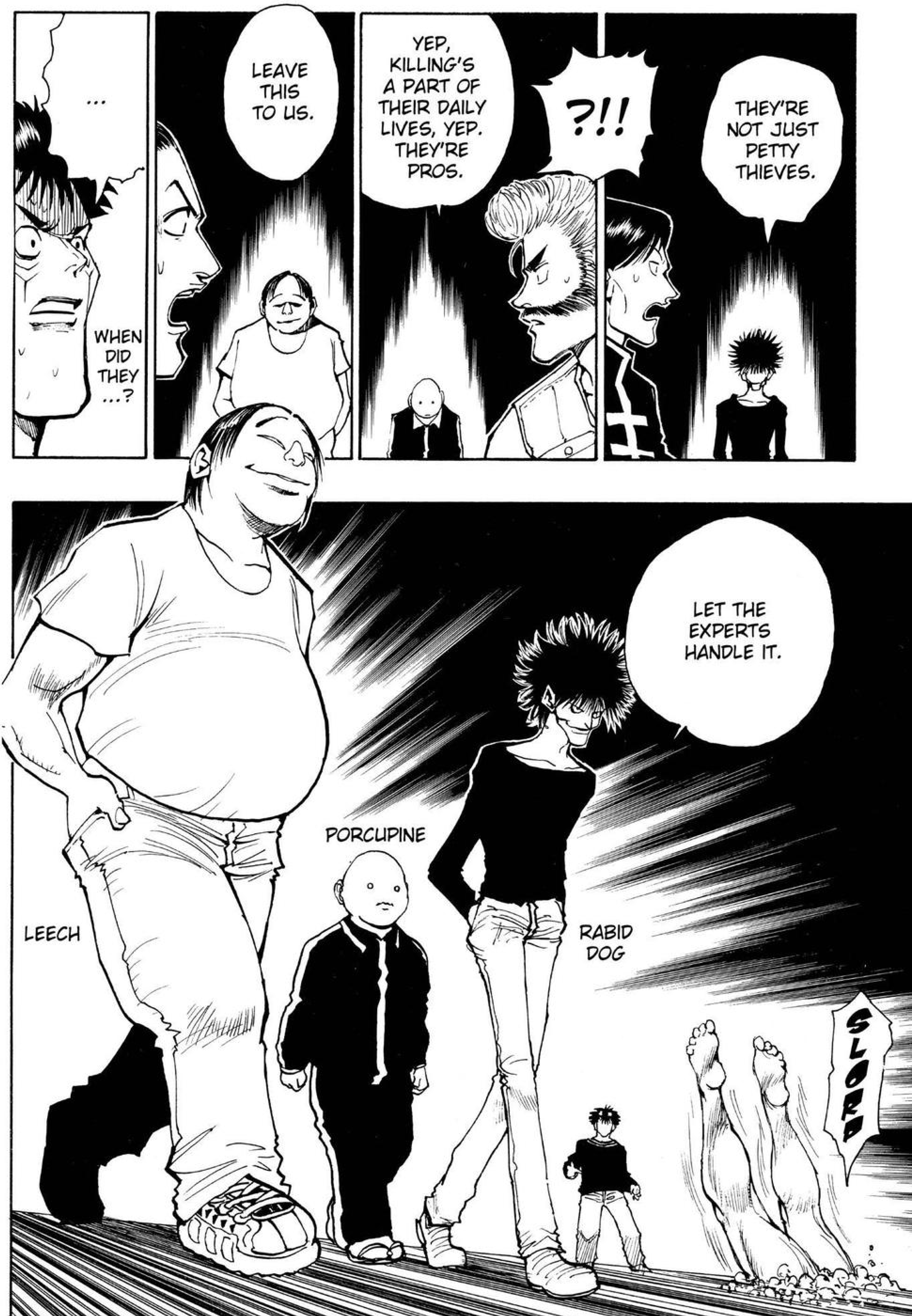

...
OKAY, THAT HURT.
WAAAAAAAH!!
HAH!
AS IF YOU'RE GETTING AWAY.

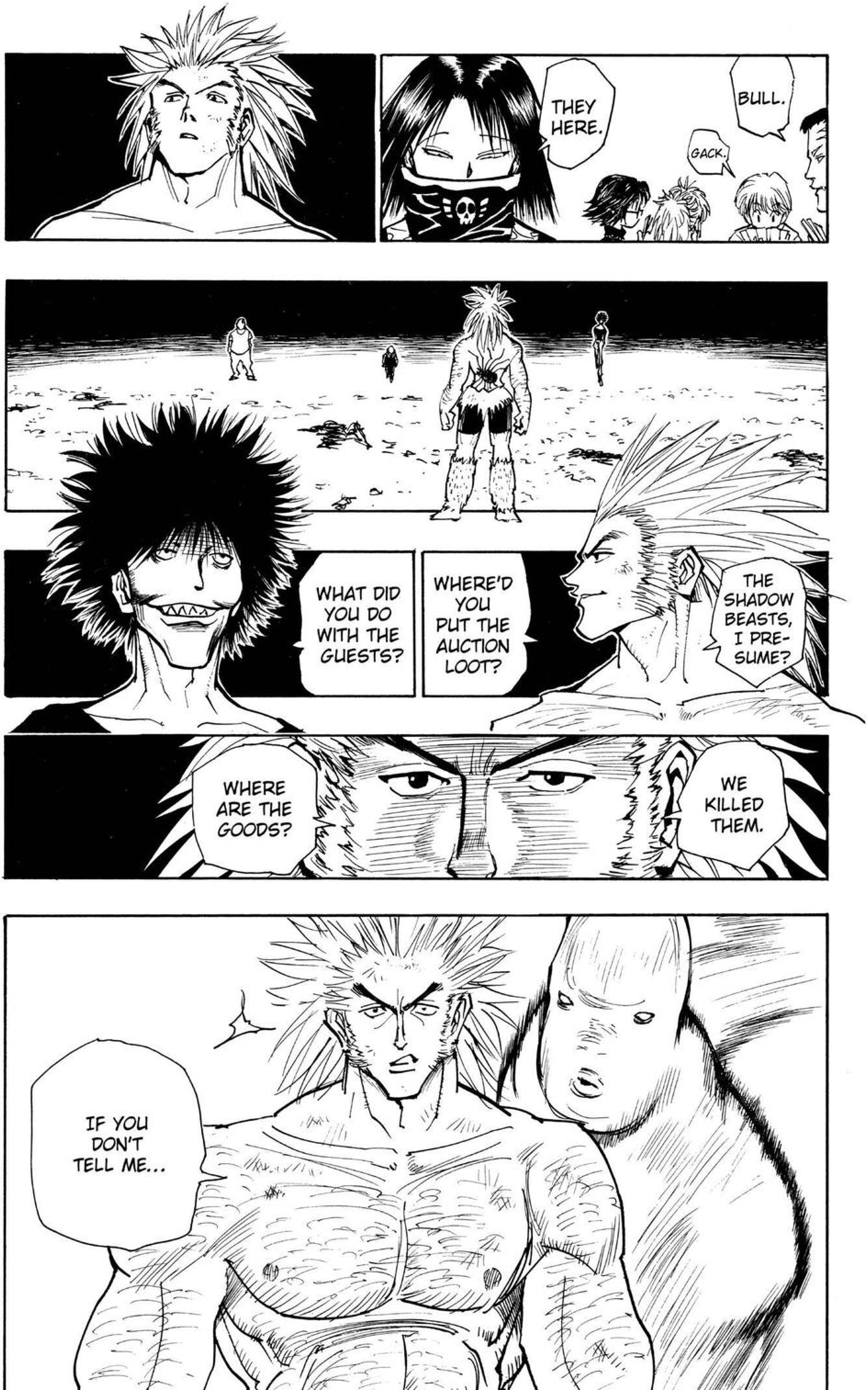

WHAT WAS THAT BLAST?!
OVER THERE.
SHF
...
THE ENEMY USES NEN, TOO.
!!
AND...
...HE'S INCREDIBLY POWERFUL...!!

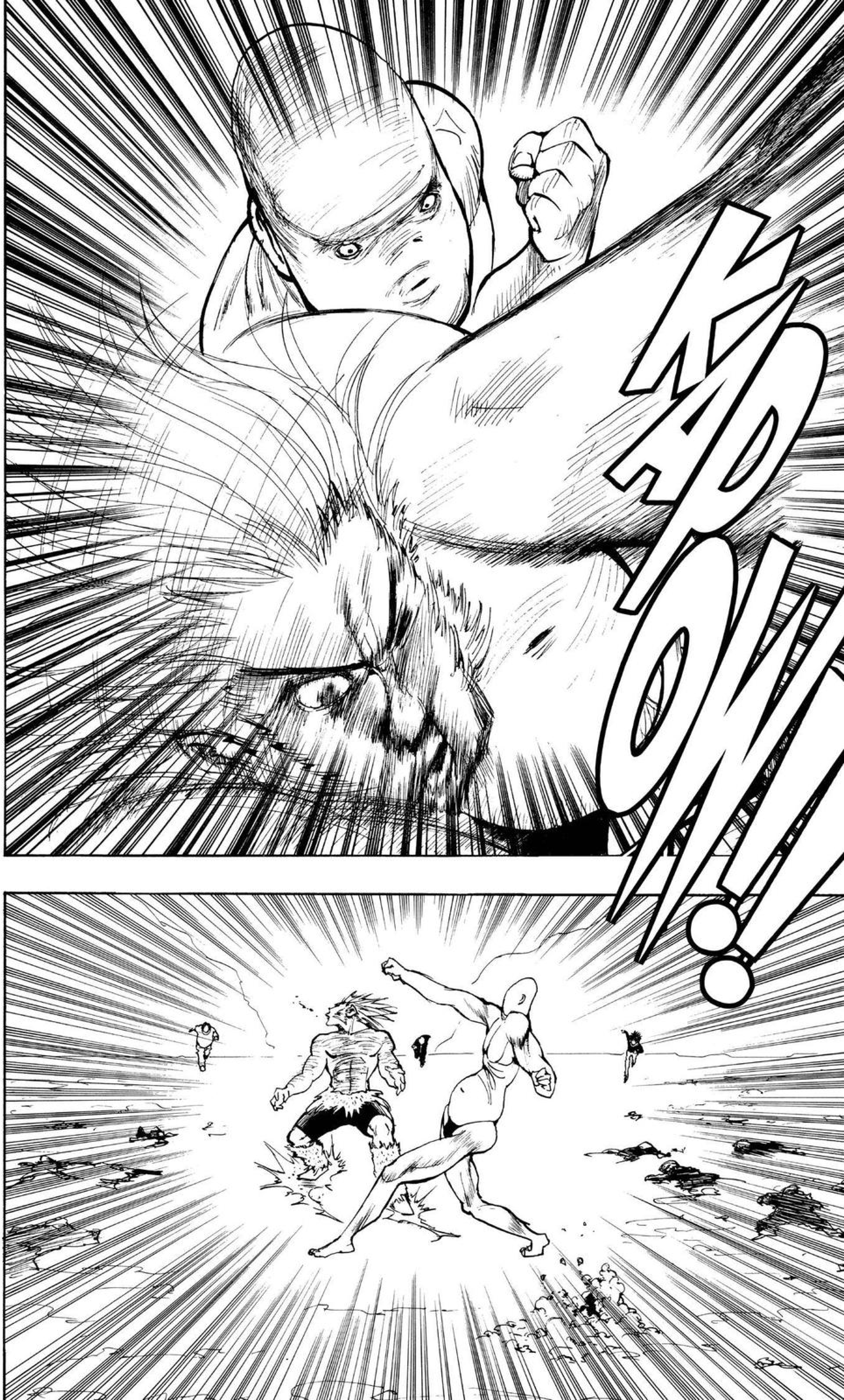

THE MEN WHO GOT THERE FIRST ARE ALL DEAD.
WHA—
FIREARMS ARE USELESS.
TAKE A LOOK.
YOU'LL SEE THE ENORMITY OF HIS AURA...
...AND THE PILES OF CORPSES.
WHAT IS...
WHO IS HE?
GACK!
HE'S RIPPING PEOPLE APART WITH HIS *BARE HANDS!!*
YOU CAN'T MAKE ME GO UP THERE!
YEAH, WE DON'T STAND A CHANCE.
MAYBE... BUT WE CAN'T BACK OUT WITHOUT TRYING...!!
GIMME A BREAK!
...
?
WHAT'S WRONG?
I HEAR...
...AN EXTRA HEARTBEAT.
BRR!!
WHA—
SHF
!!

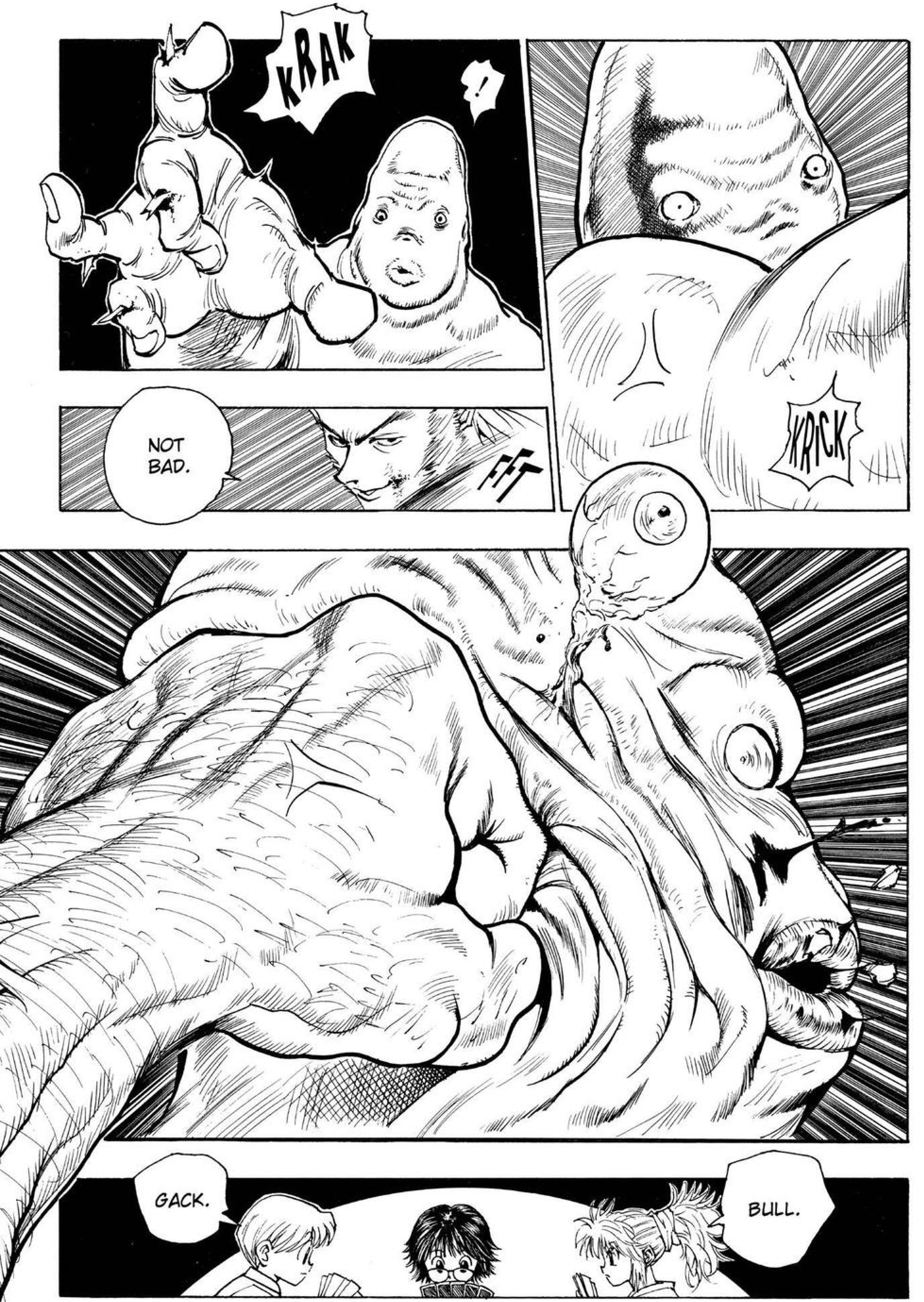

NUB
NUB
NUB
NUB
NUB
NUB
SHF

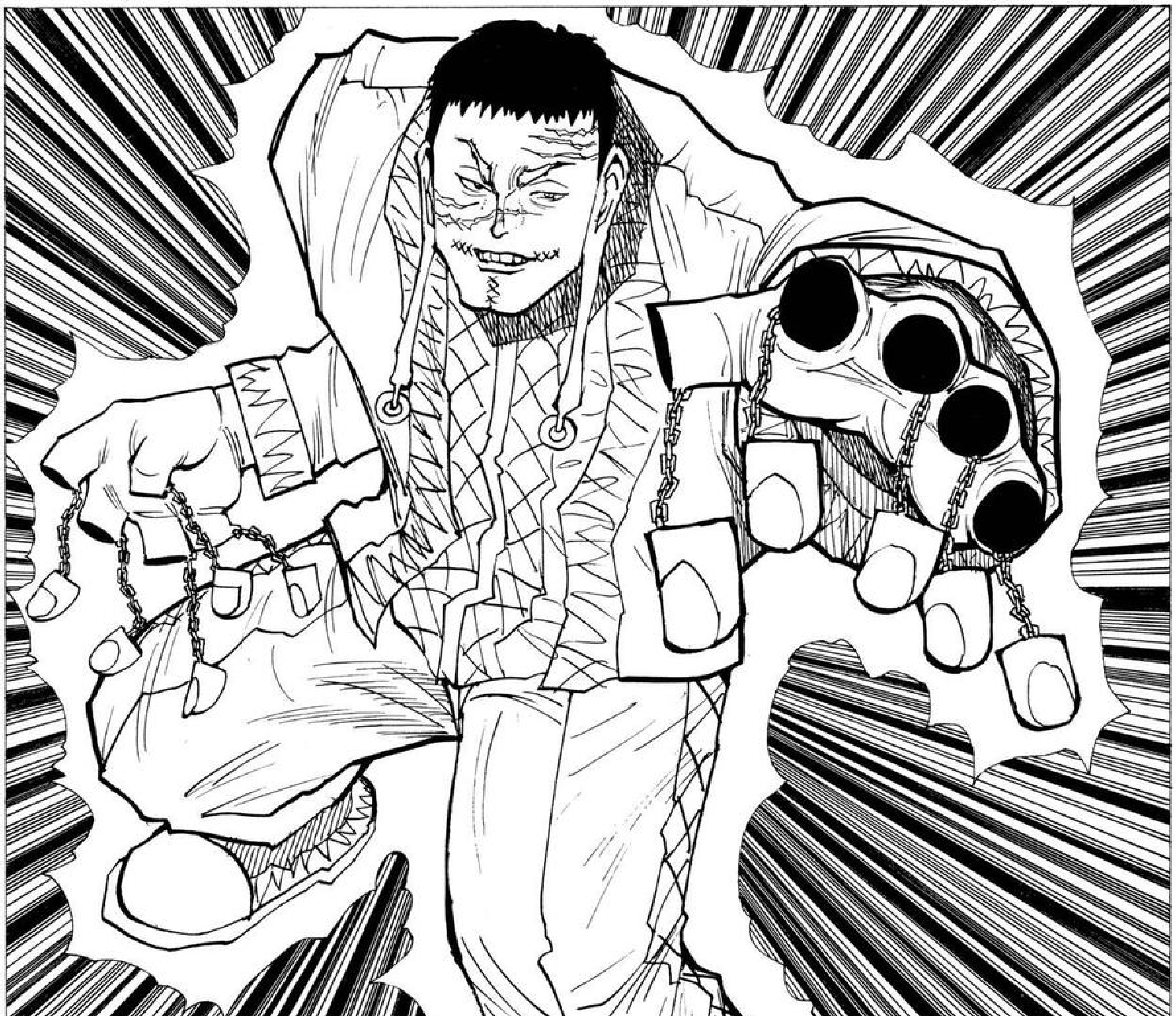

SHLORP
...!!
SHF
I'M A SHADOW BEAST. NAME'S WORM.
!!
WHOSE FAMILY ARE YOU?
RITZ FAMILY. WE'RE MR. NOSTRADE'S BODY-GUARDS.
UH-HUH.
I SUGGEST YOU STAY OUT OF THIS...


THEY'RE NOT JUST PETTY THIEVES.
?!!
YEP, KILLING'S A PART OF THEIR DAILY LIVES, YEP. THEY'RE PROS.
LEAVE THIS TO US.
...
WHEN DID THEY ...?
LET THE EXPERTS HANDLE IT.
RABID DOG
PORCUPINE
LEECH
SLORP


BULL.
GACK.
THEY HERE.
THE SHADOW BEASTS, I PRESUME?
WHERE'D YOU PUT THE AUCTION LOOT?
WHAT DID YOU DO WITH THE GUESTS?
WE KILLED THEM.
WHERE ARE THE GOODS?
IF YOU DON'T TELL ME...


KAPOW!!


KRICK
KRAK
!
NOT BAD.
FFT
BULL.
GACK.

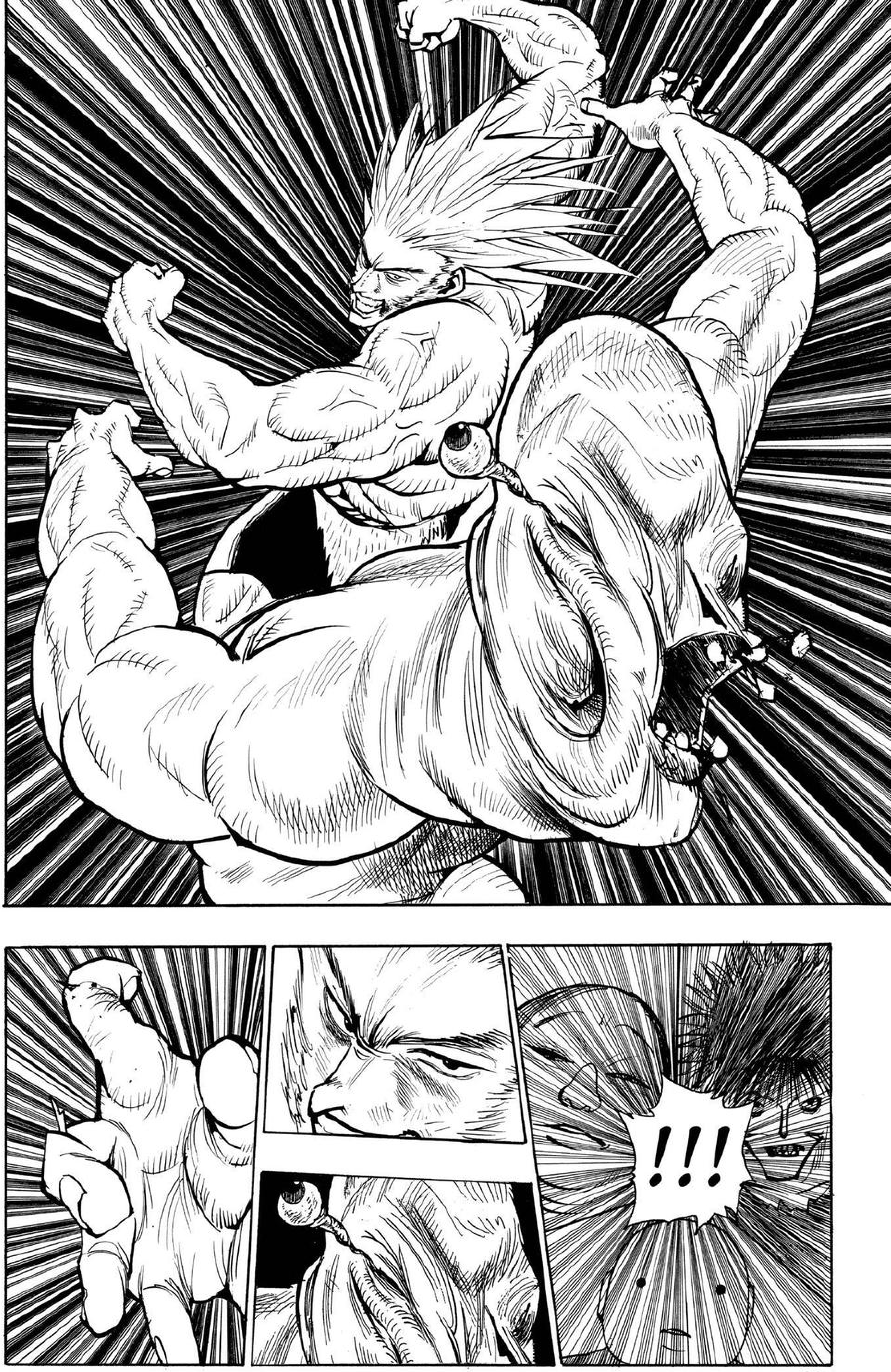


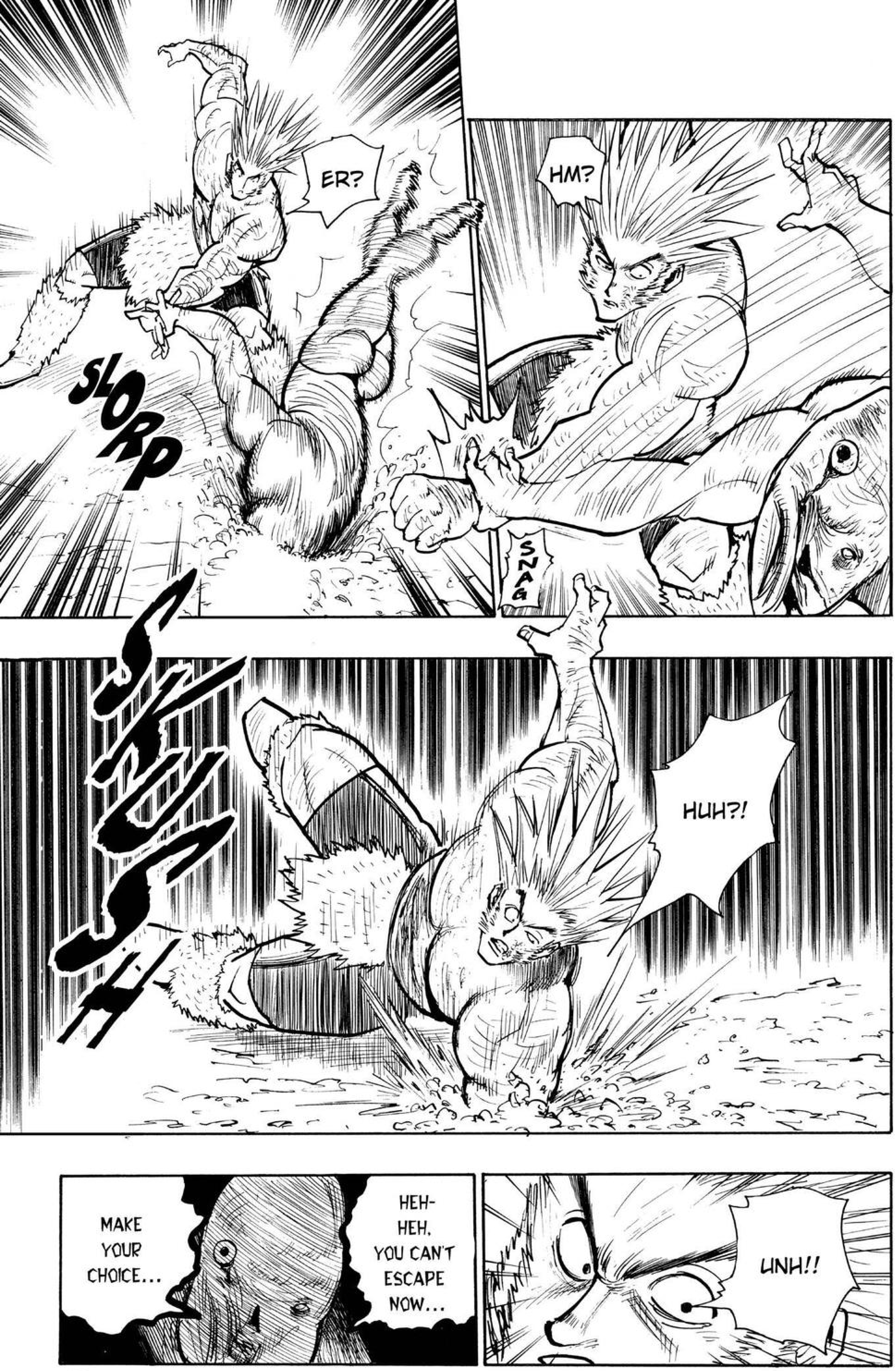
Chapter 76

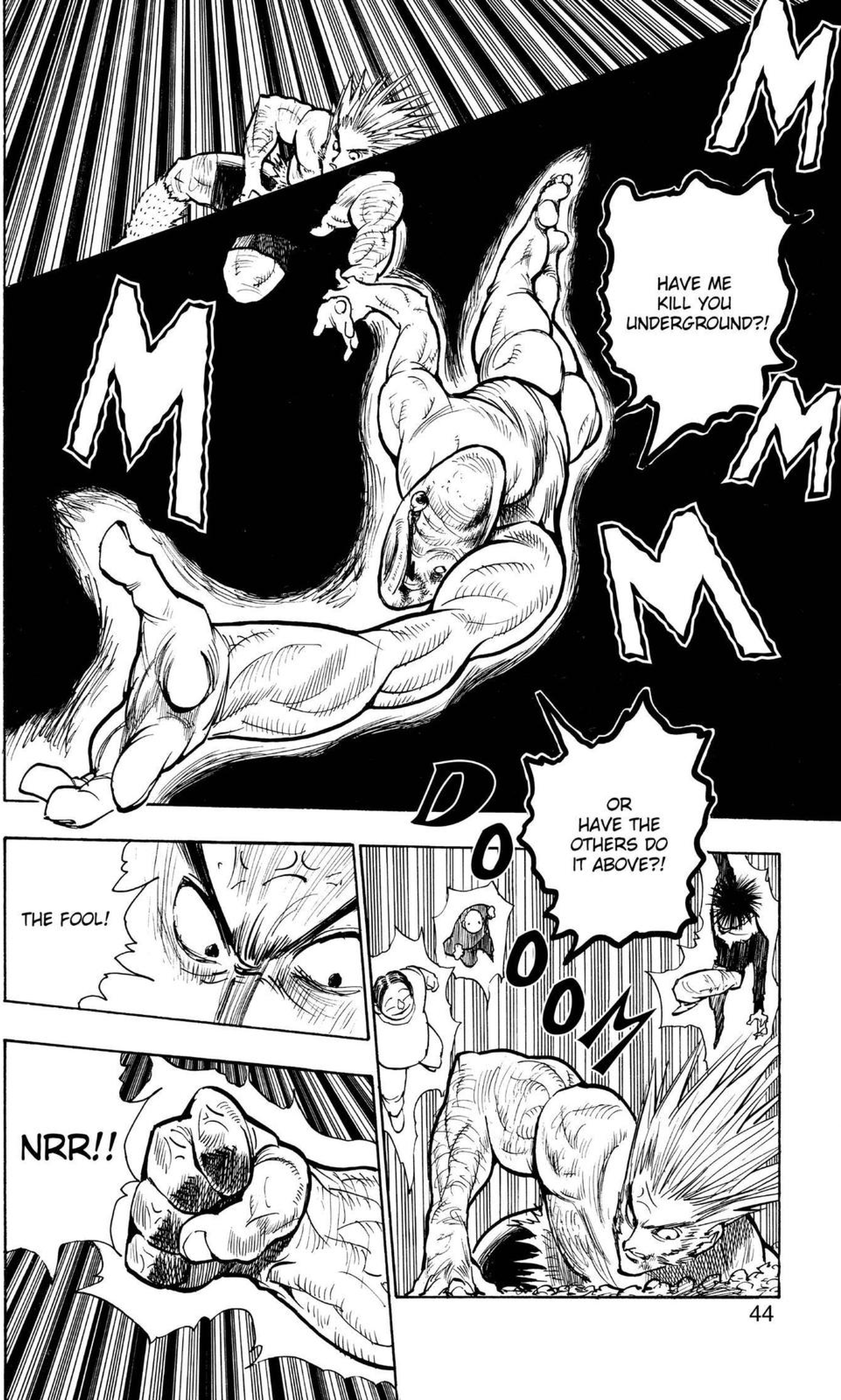
September 1st: Part 5

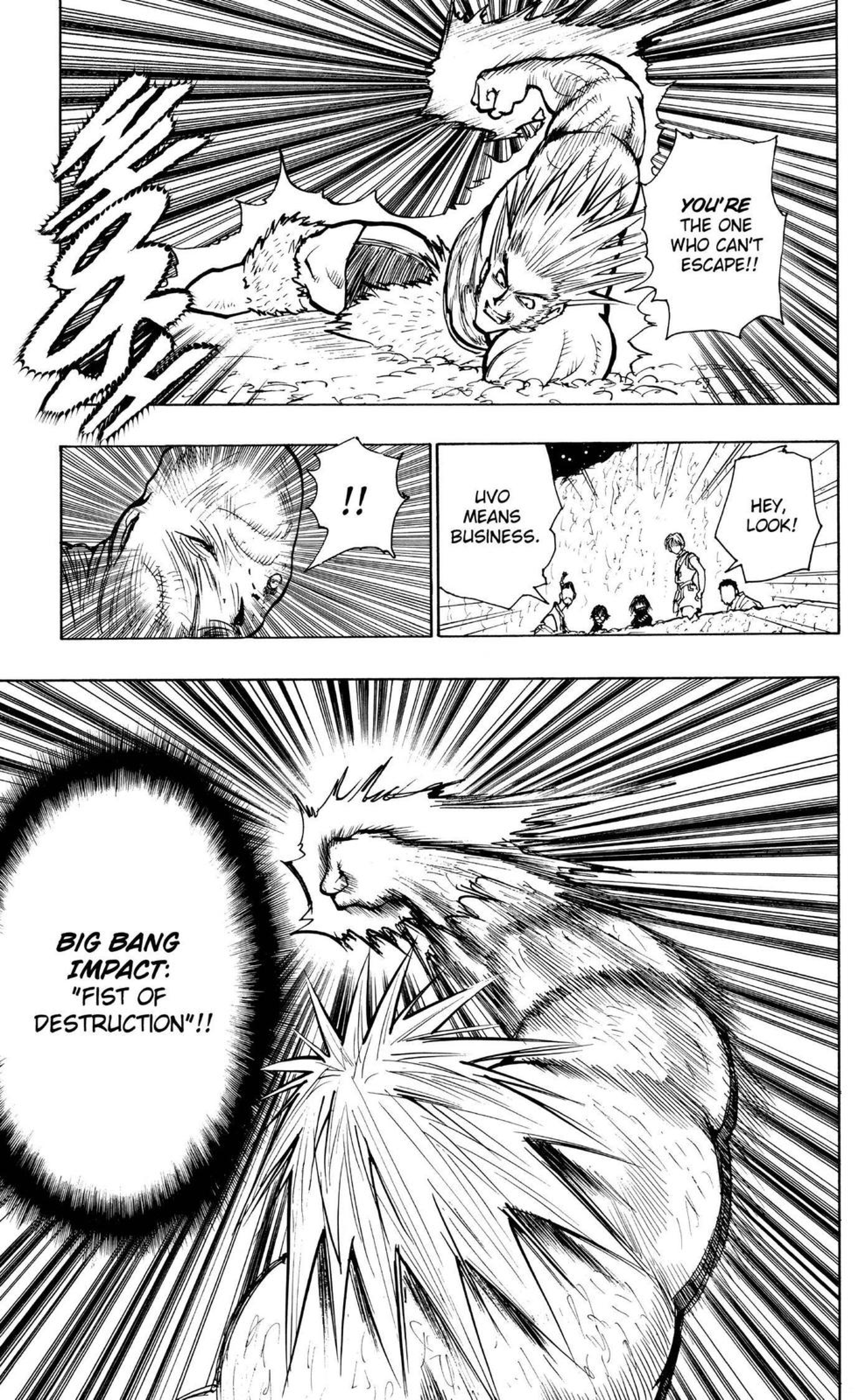
FRANKLIN (EMITTER)

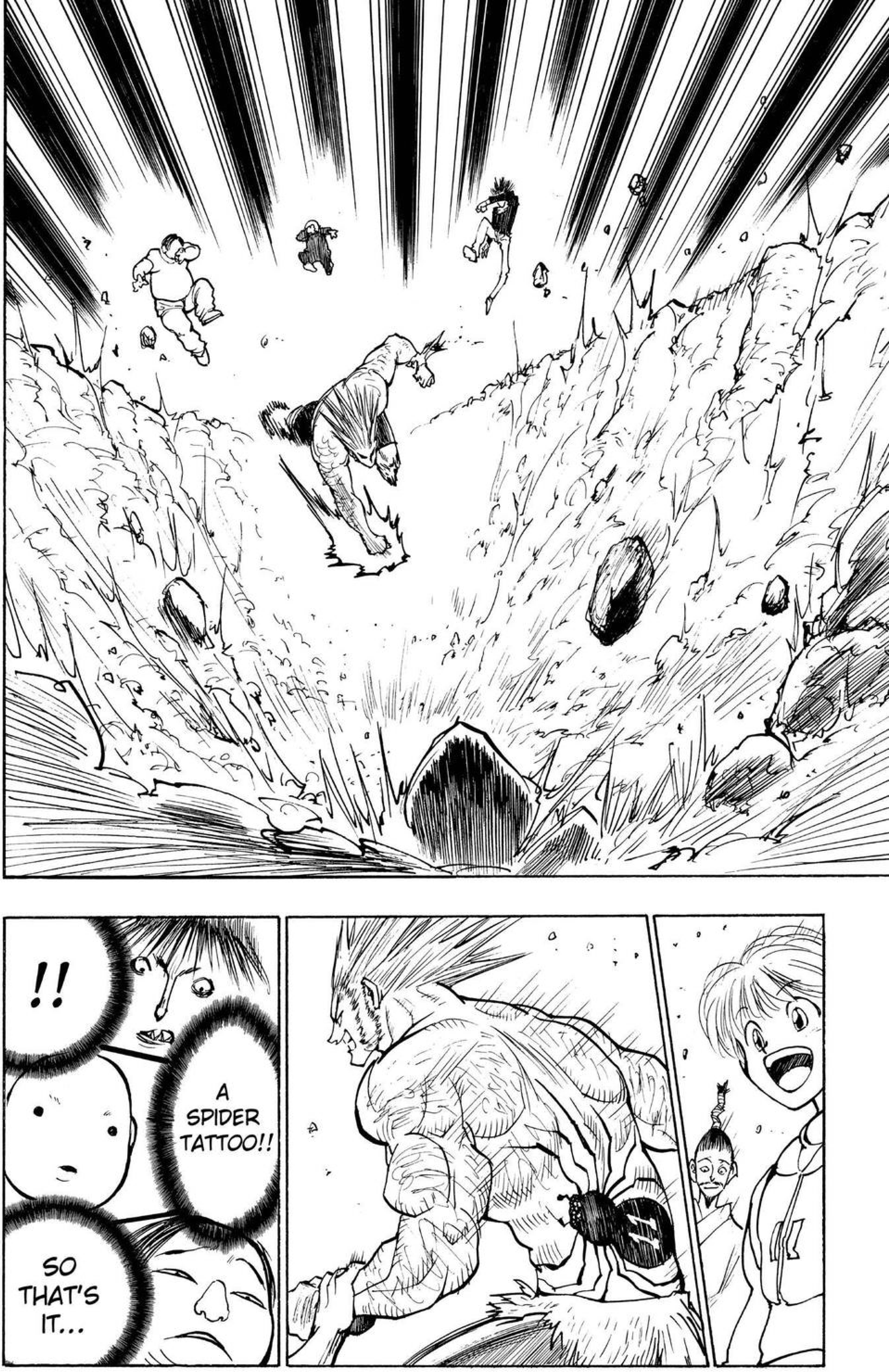
HE MODIFIED HIS FINGERTIPS INTO GUNS, FROM WHICH HE SHOOTS OUT CHUNKS OF AURA (NEN BULLETS). OF COURSE, THIS WOULD BE POSSIBLE WITHOUT CUTTING THE FINGERS OFF, BUT HE DID IT BECAUSE HE FELT "IT WOULD BE MORE EFFECTIVE." IN FACT, THE DESTRUCTIVE FORCE OF EACH BULLET IMPROVED DRAMATICALLY. WILLINGNESS TO GO THE EXTRA MILE AND THE ADDITION OF RESTRICTIONS CAN GREATLY ENHANCE NEN ABILITIES.

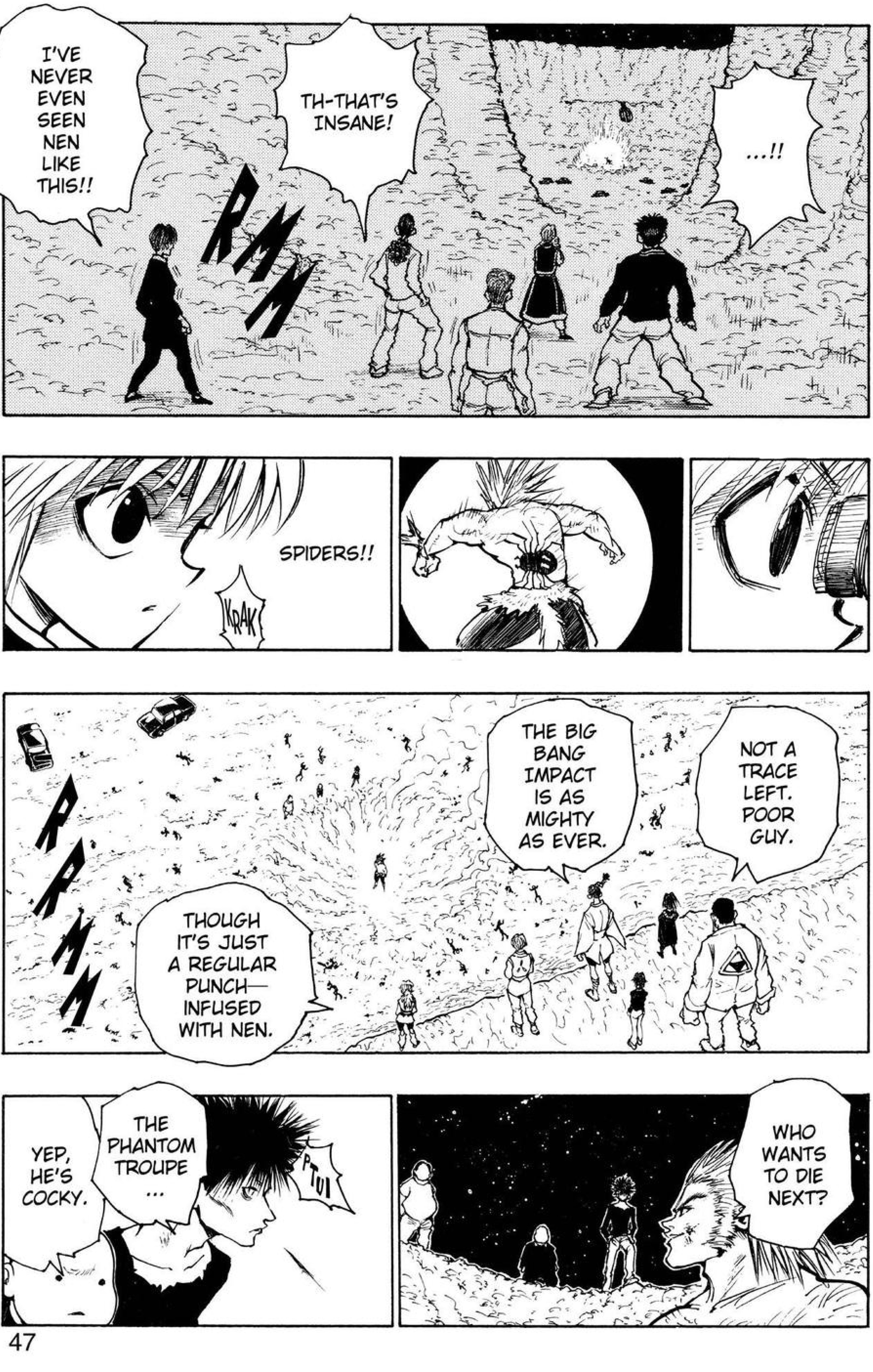


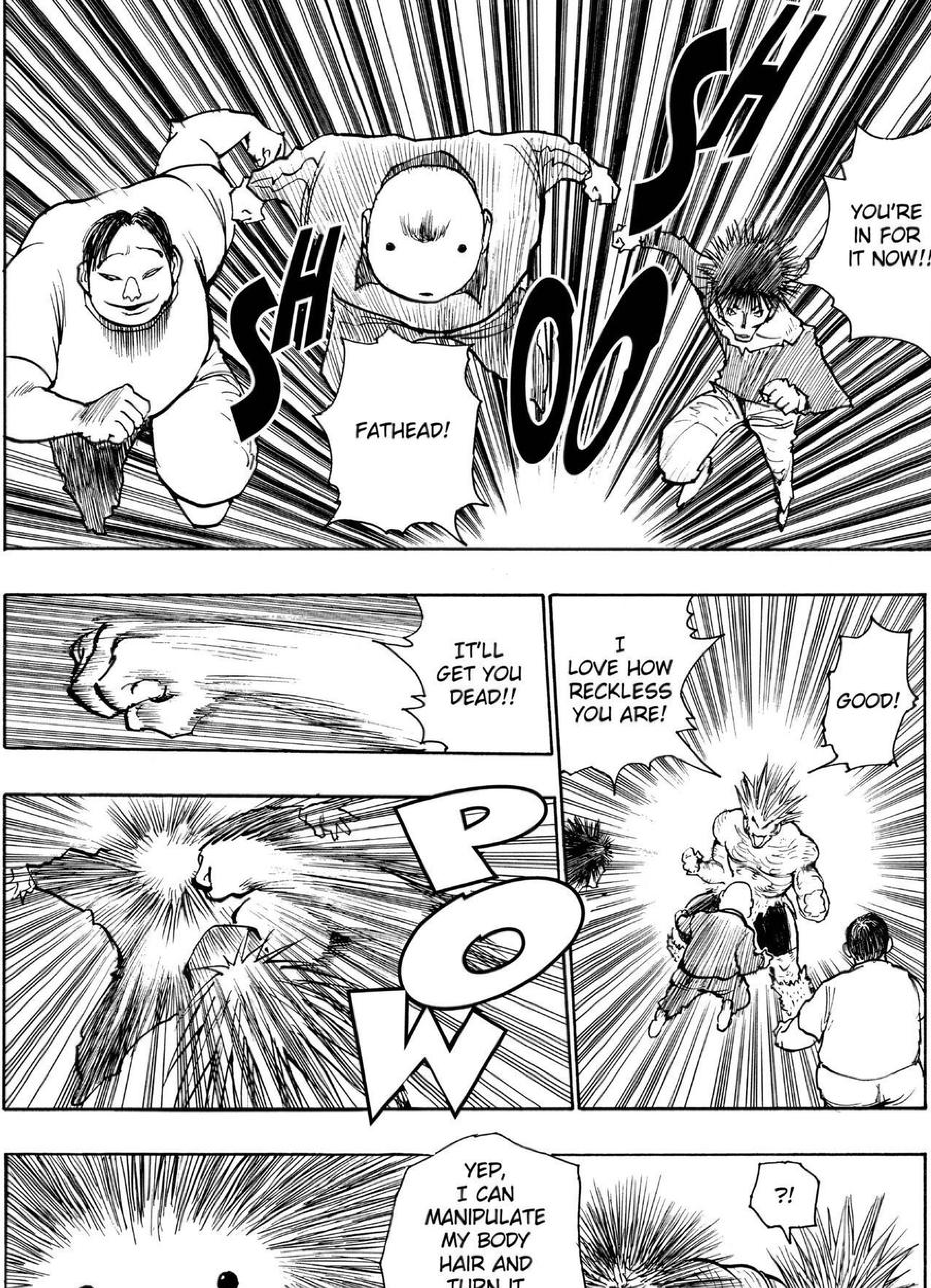

HM?
SNAG
ER?
SLORP
SHUSSH
HUH?!
UNH!!
HEH-HEH, YOU CAN'T ESCAPE NOW...
MAKE YOUR CHOICE...

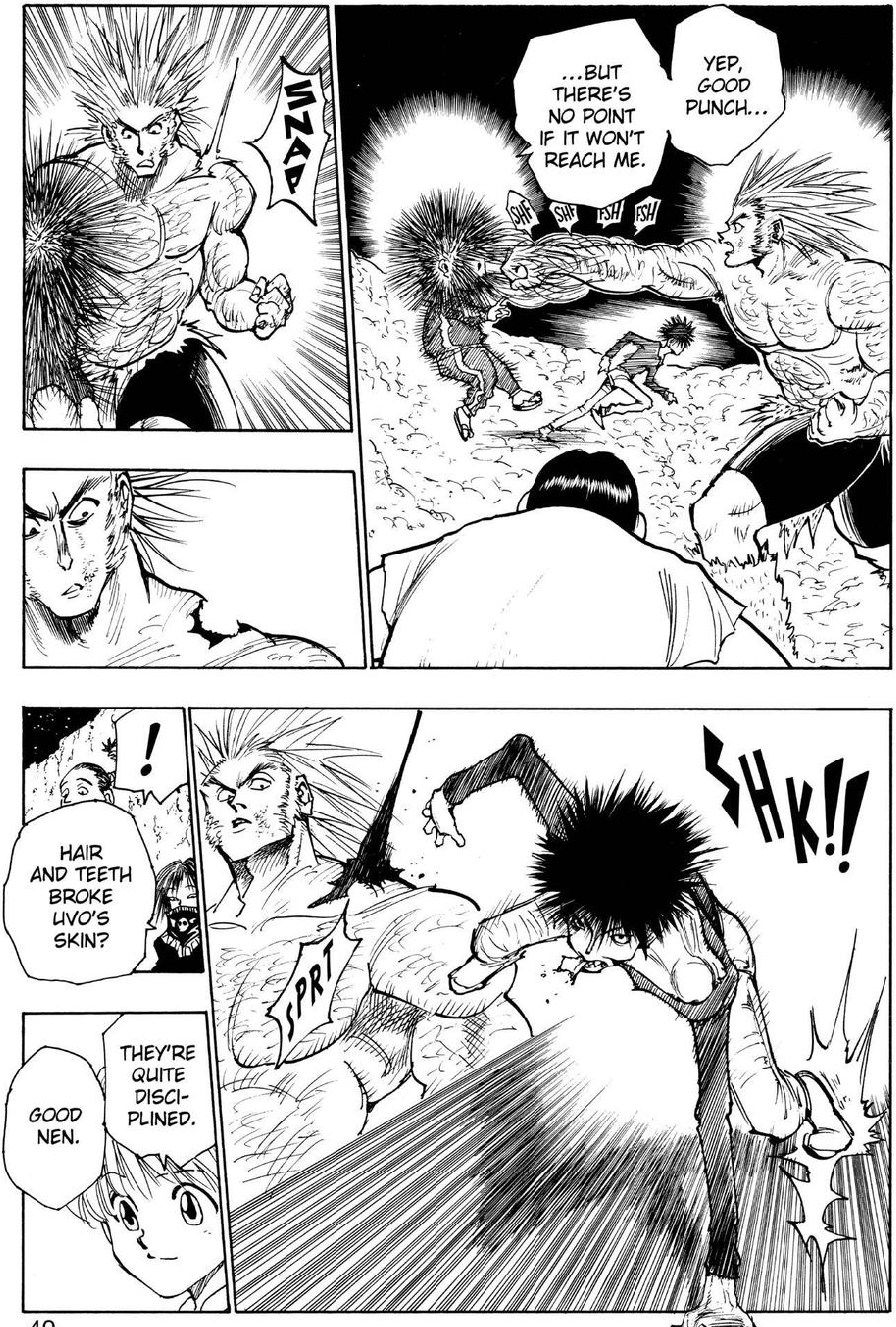

MMMM
HAVE ME KILL YOU UNDERGROUND?!
OR HAVE THE OTHERS DO IT ABOVE?!
DOOOOM
THE FOOL!
NRR!!

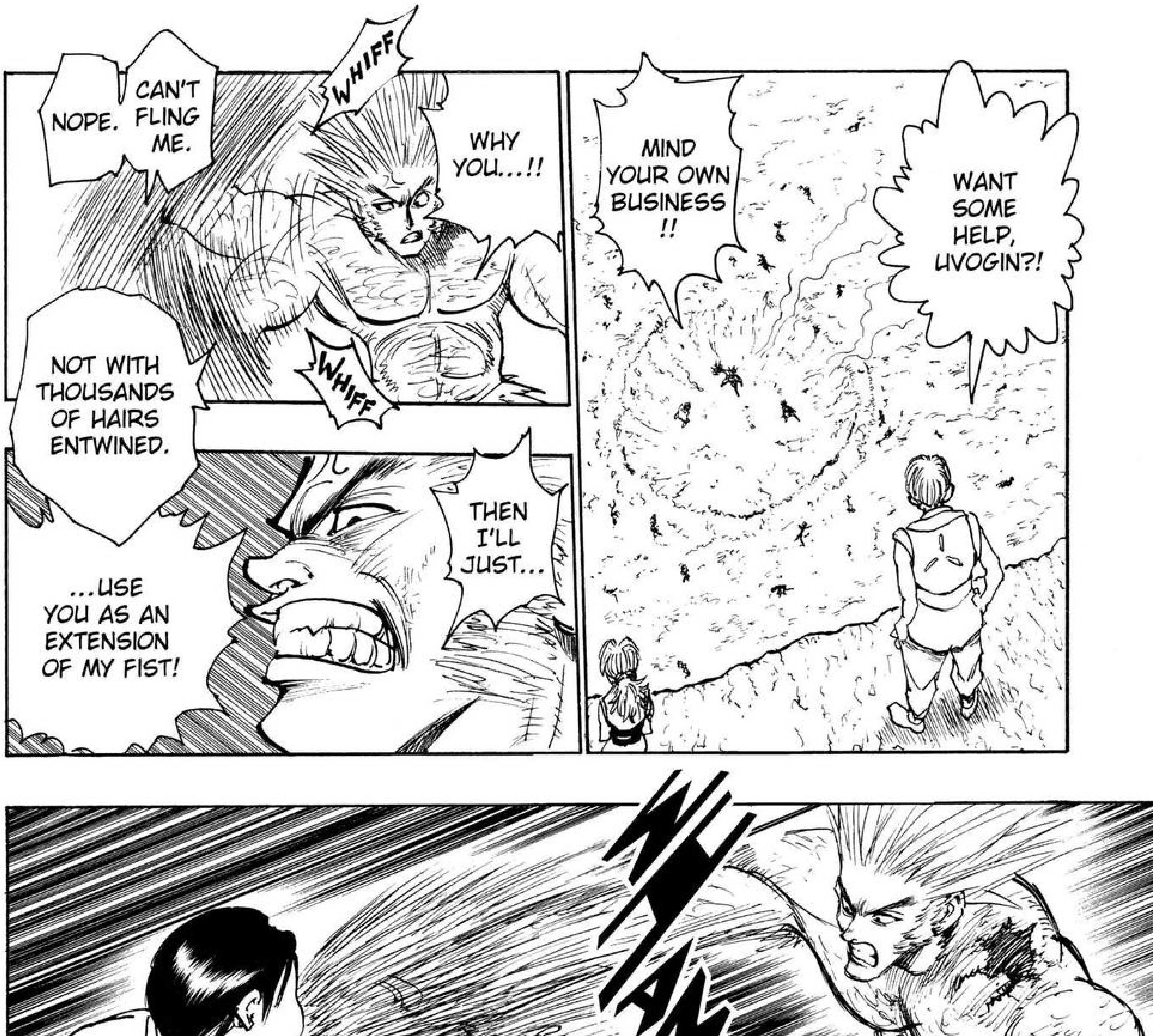

YOU'RE THE ONE WHO CAN'T ESCAPE!!
HEY, LOOK!
UVO MEANS BUSINESS.
!!
BIG BANG IMPACT: "FIST OF DESTRUCTION"!!


!!
A SPIDER TATTOO!!
SO THAT'S IT...

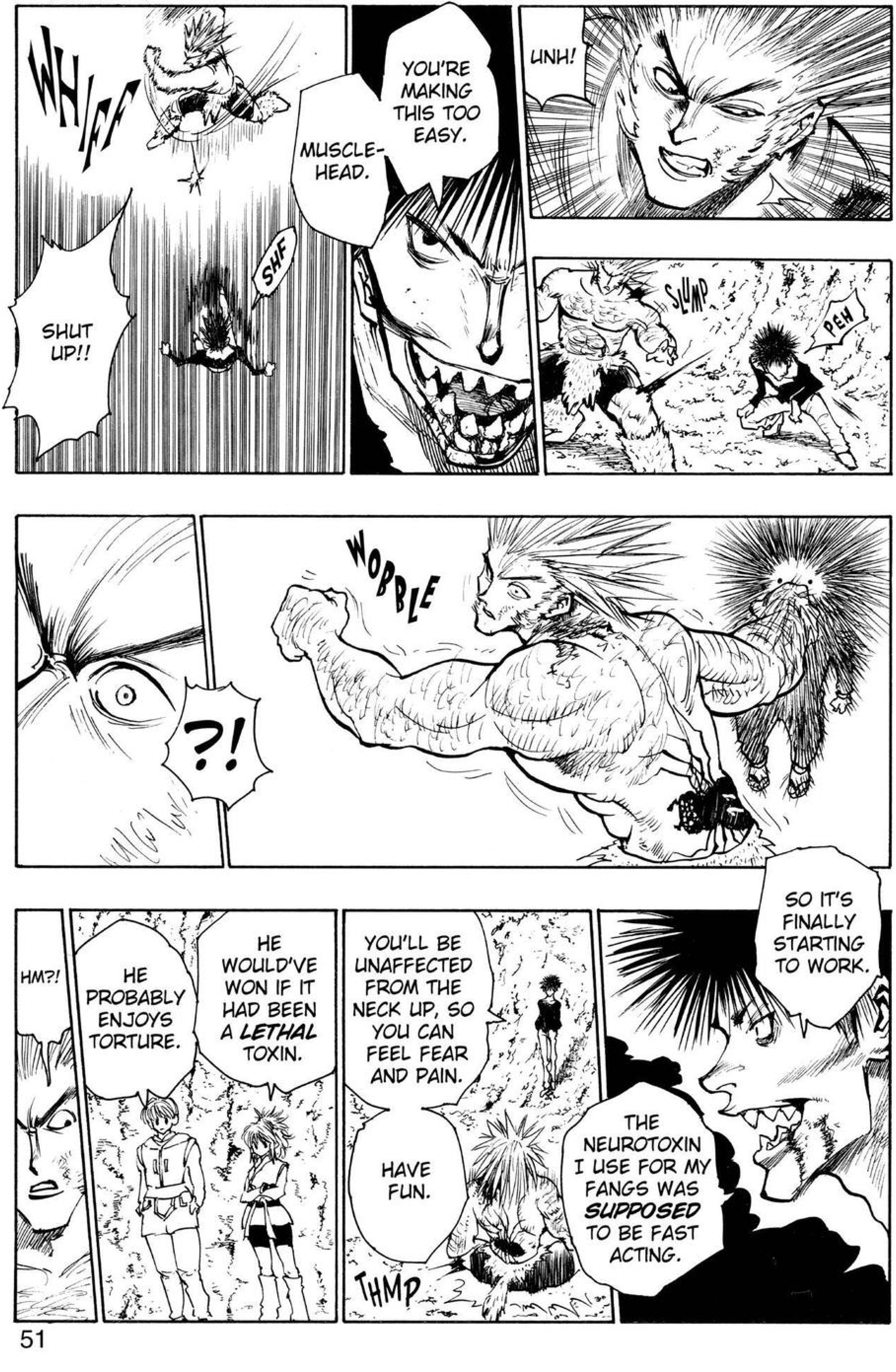

...!!
TH-THAT'S INSANE!
I'VE NEVER EVEN SEEN NEN LIKE THIS!!
RMM
SPIDERS!!
KRAK
NOT A TRACE LEFT. POOR GUY.
THE BIG BANG IMPACT IS AS MIGHTY AS EVER.
THOUGH IT'S JUST A REGULAR PUNCH— INFUSED WITH NEN.
RRMM
WHO WANTS TO DIE NEXT?
PTUI
THE PHANTOM TROUPE ...
YEP, HE'S COCKY.

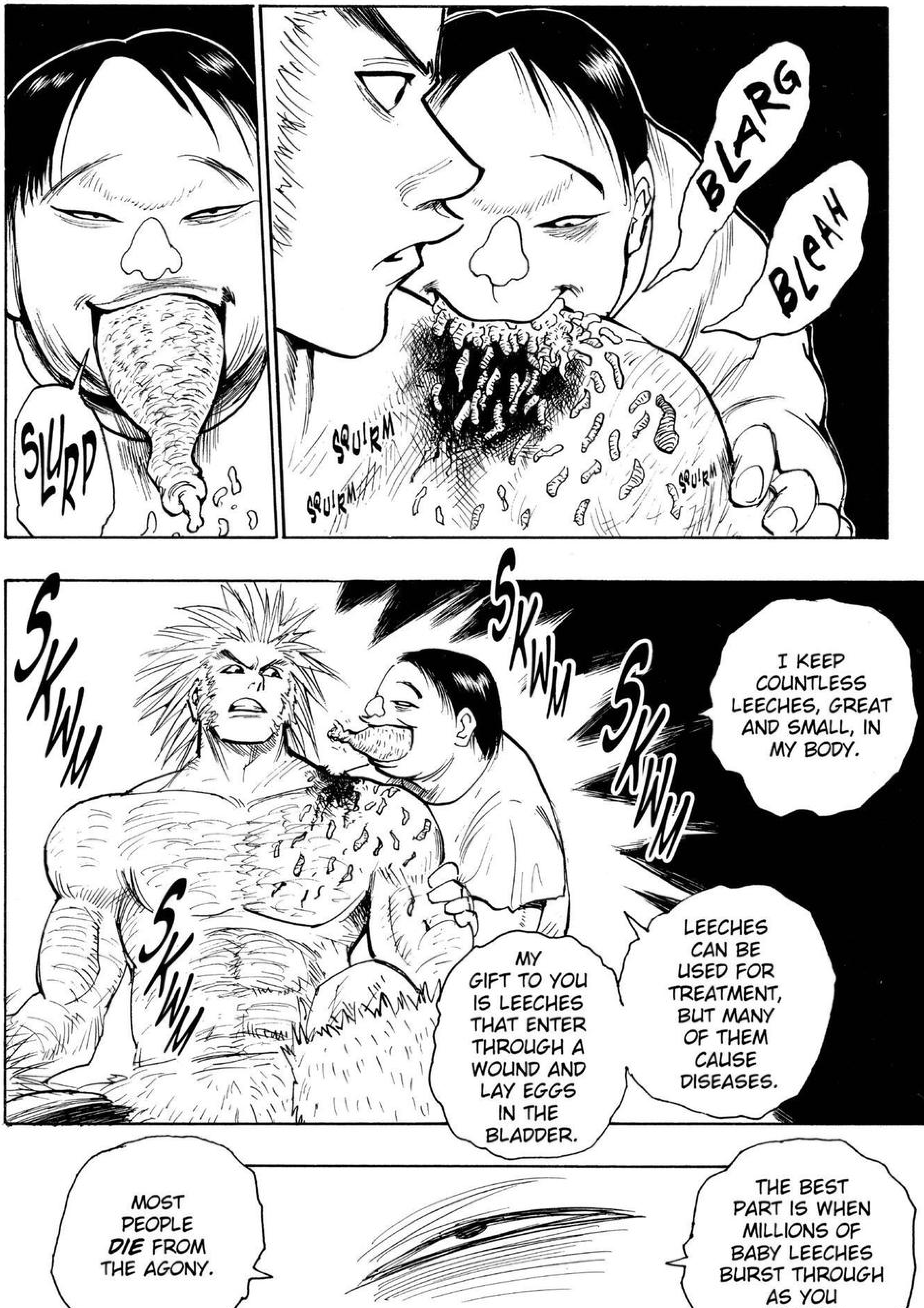

YOU'RE IN FOR IT NOW!!
SHOOSH
FATHEAD!
GOOD!
I LOVE HOW RECKLESS YOU ARE!
IT'LL GET YOU DEAD!!
POW
?!
YEP, I CAN MANIPULATE MY BODY HAIR AND TURN IT INTO SHARP NEEDLES.

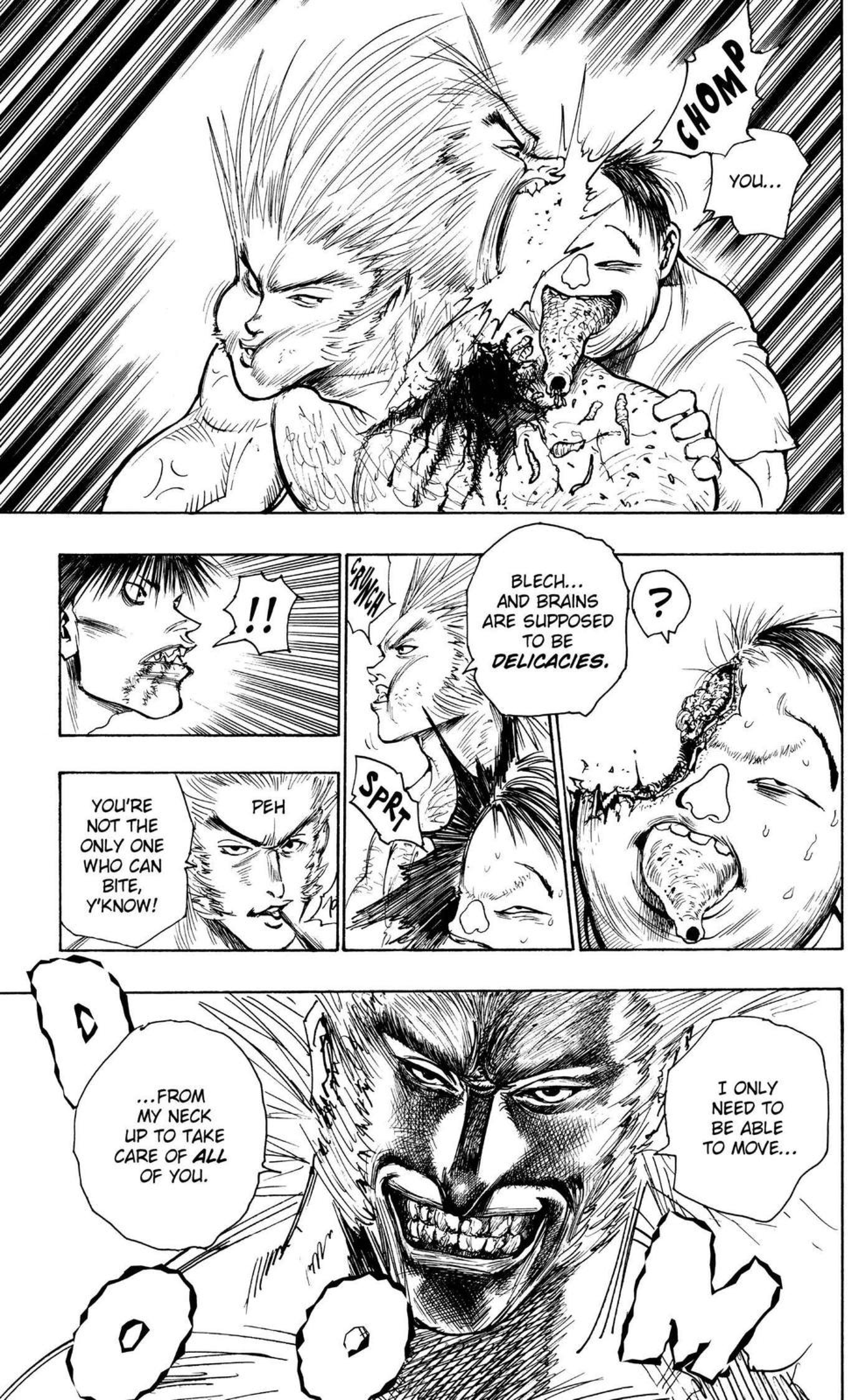

YEP, GOOD PUNCH...
...BUT THERE'S NO POINT IF IT WON'T REACH ME.
SHF
SHF
FSH
FSH
SNAP
SHK!!
SPRT
!
HAIR AND TEETH BROKE UVO'S SKIN?
THEY'RE QUITE DISCI-PLINED.
GOOD NEN.

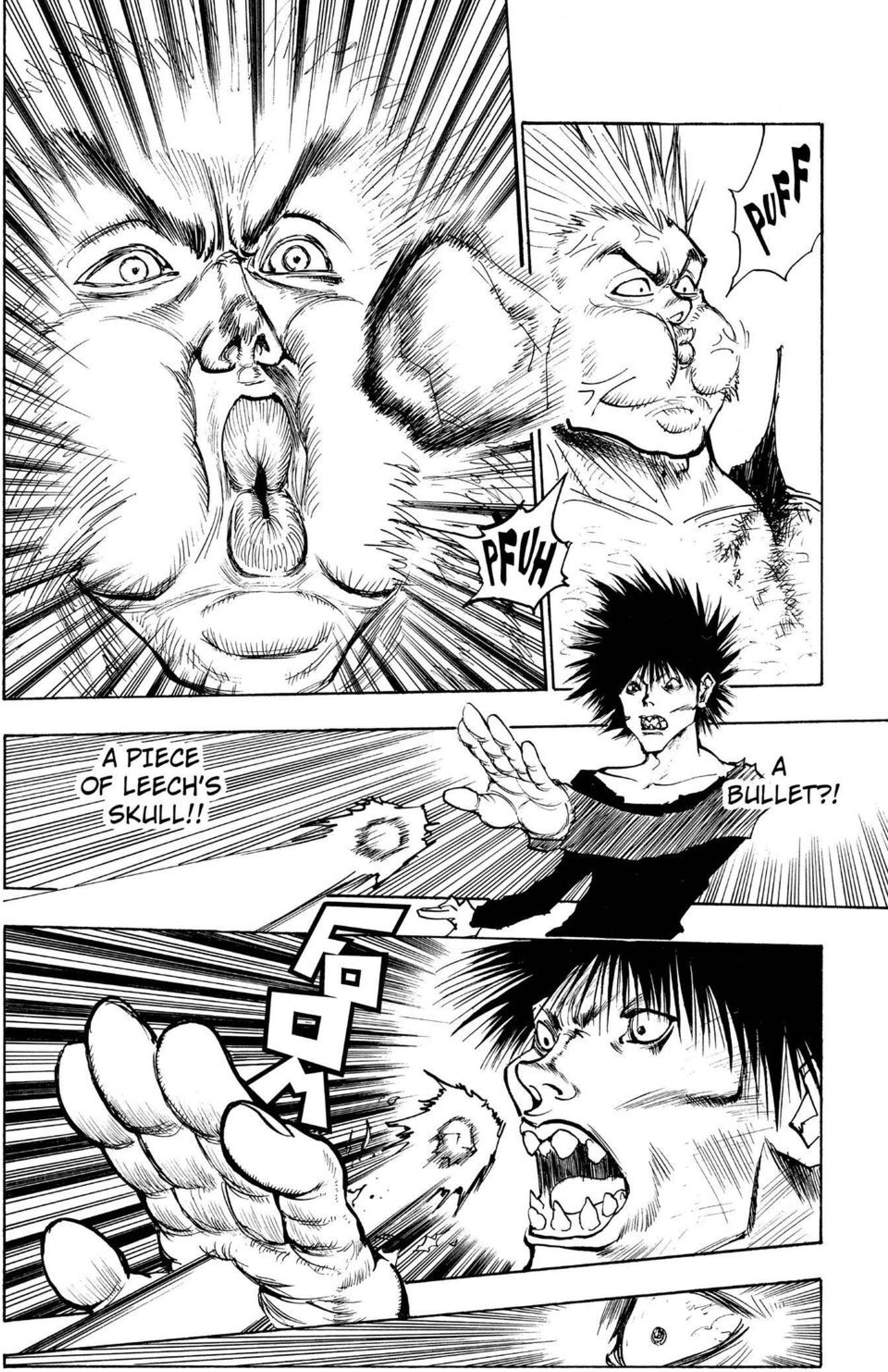

WANT SOME HELP, UVOGIN?!
MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS!!
WHIFF
WHY YOU...!!
CAN'T FLING ME.
NOPE.
WHIFF
NOT WITH THOUSANDS OF HAIRS ENTWINED.
THEN I'LL JUST...
...USE YOU AS AN EXTENSION OF MY FIST!
WHAM
!!
BYOING
BYOING
SPROING
YEP, I CAN CONTROL IT AT WILL...
...SO I CAN MAKE SOME LOCKS *SOFT*, TOO.

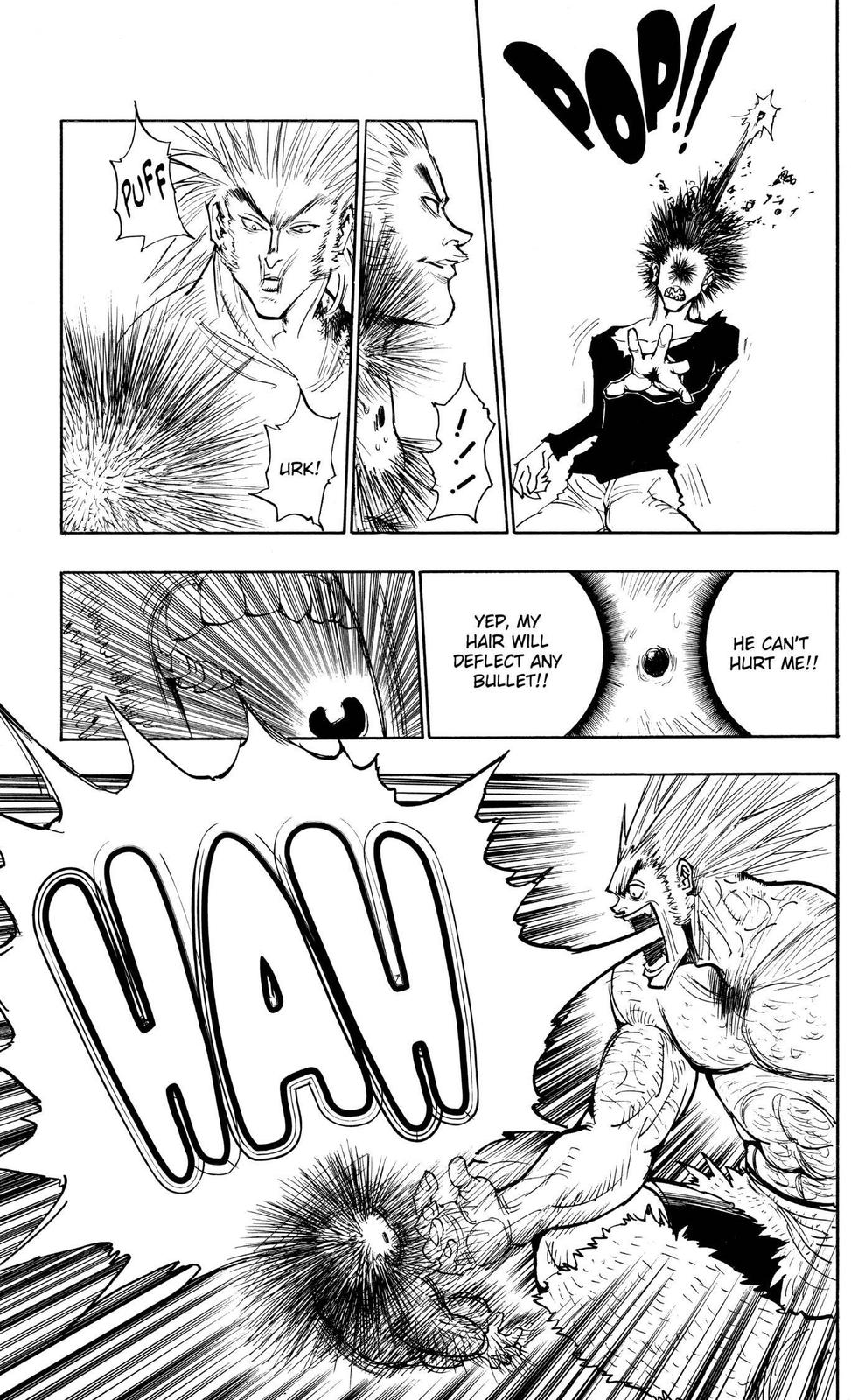
READ THIS WAY

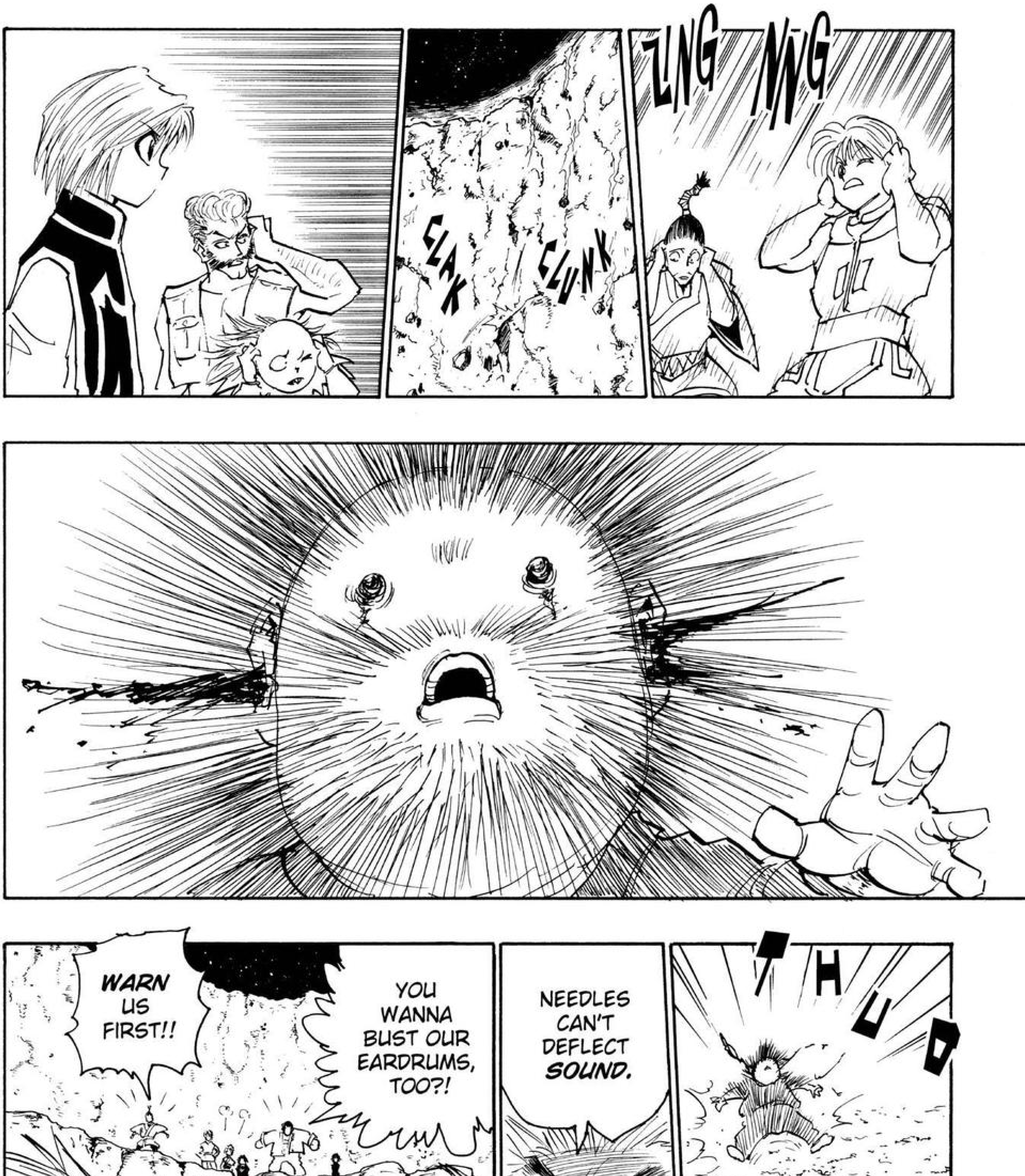

UNH!
SLUMP
PEH
YOU'RE MAKING THIS TOO EASY.
MUSCLE-HEAD.
WHIFF
SHF
SHUT UP!!
WOBBLE
?!
SO IT'S FINALLY STARTING TO WORK.
THE NEUROTOXIN I USE FOR MY FANGS WAS ***SUPPOSED*** TO BE FAST ACTING.
YOU'LL BE UNAFFECTED FROM THE NECK UP, SO YOU CAN FEEL FEAR AND PAIN.
HAVE FUN.
THMP
HE WOULD'VE WON IF IT HAD BEEN A ***LETHAL*** TOXIN.
HE PROBABLY ENJOYS TORTURE.
HM?!


BLARG
BLEAH
SQUIRM
SQUIRM
SQUIRM
SLURP
SKWM
SKWM
SKWM
SKWM
I KEEP COUNTLESS LEECHES, GREAT AND SMALL, IN MY BODY.
LEECHES CAN BE USED FOR TREATMENT, BUT MANY OF THEM CAUSE DISEASES.
MY GIFT TO YOU IS LEECHES THAT ENTER THROUGH A WOUND AND LAY EGGS IN THE BLADDER.
THE BEST PART IS WHEN MILLIONS OF BABY LEECHES BURST THROUGH AS YOU URINATE.
MOST PEOPLE *DIE* FROM THE AGONY.

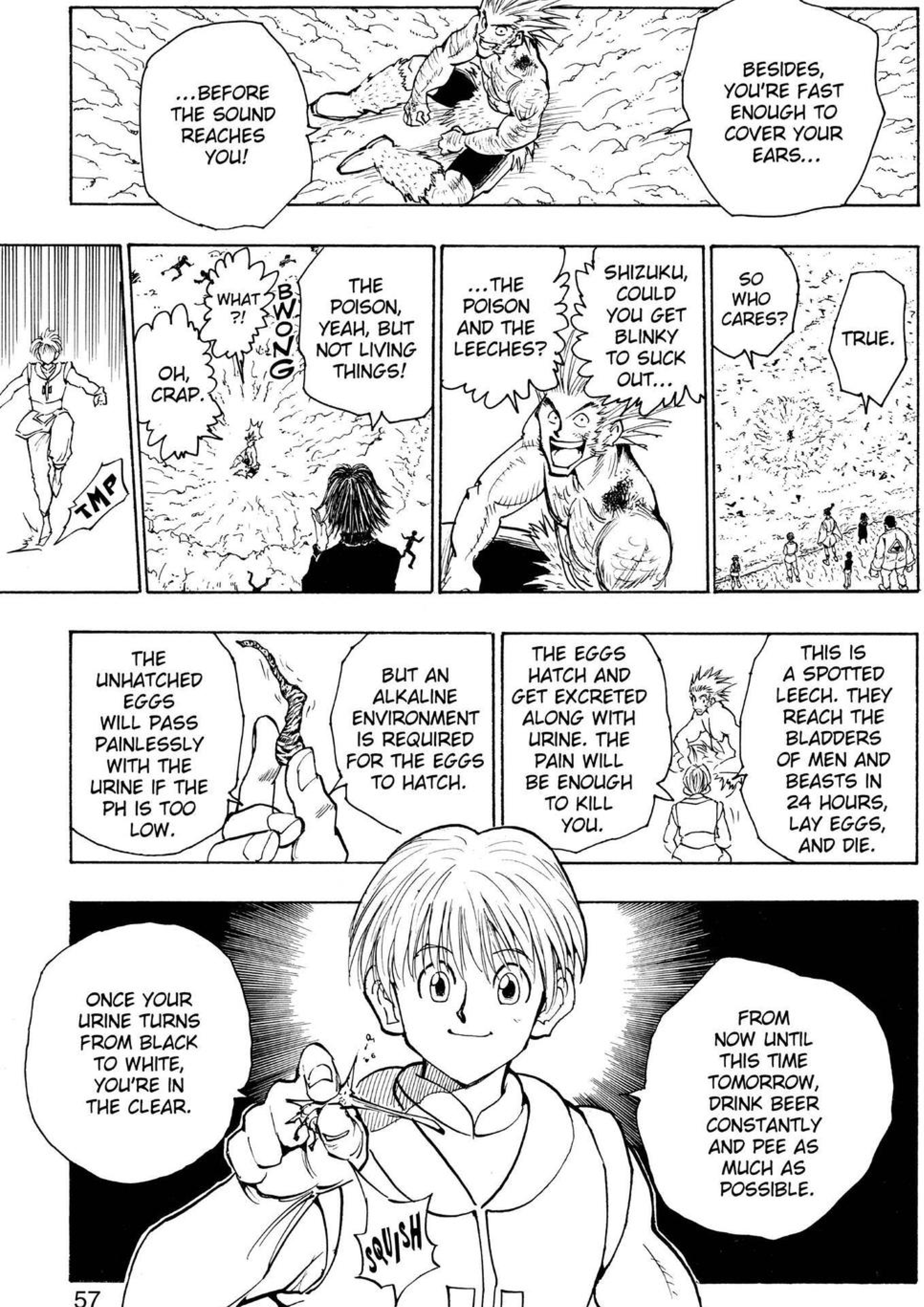

CHOMP
YOU...
?
CRUNCH
BLECH... AND BRAINS ARE SUPPOSED TO BE *DELICACIES.*
SPRT
!!
PEH
YOU'RE NOT THE ONLY ONE WHO CAN BITE, Y'KNOW!
I ONLY NEED TO BE ABLE TO MOVE...
...FROM MY NECK UP TO TAKE CARE OF *ALL* OF YOU.
DOOOM

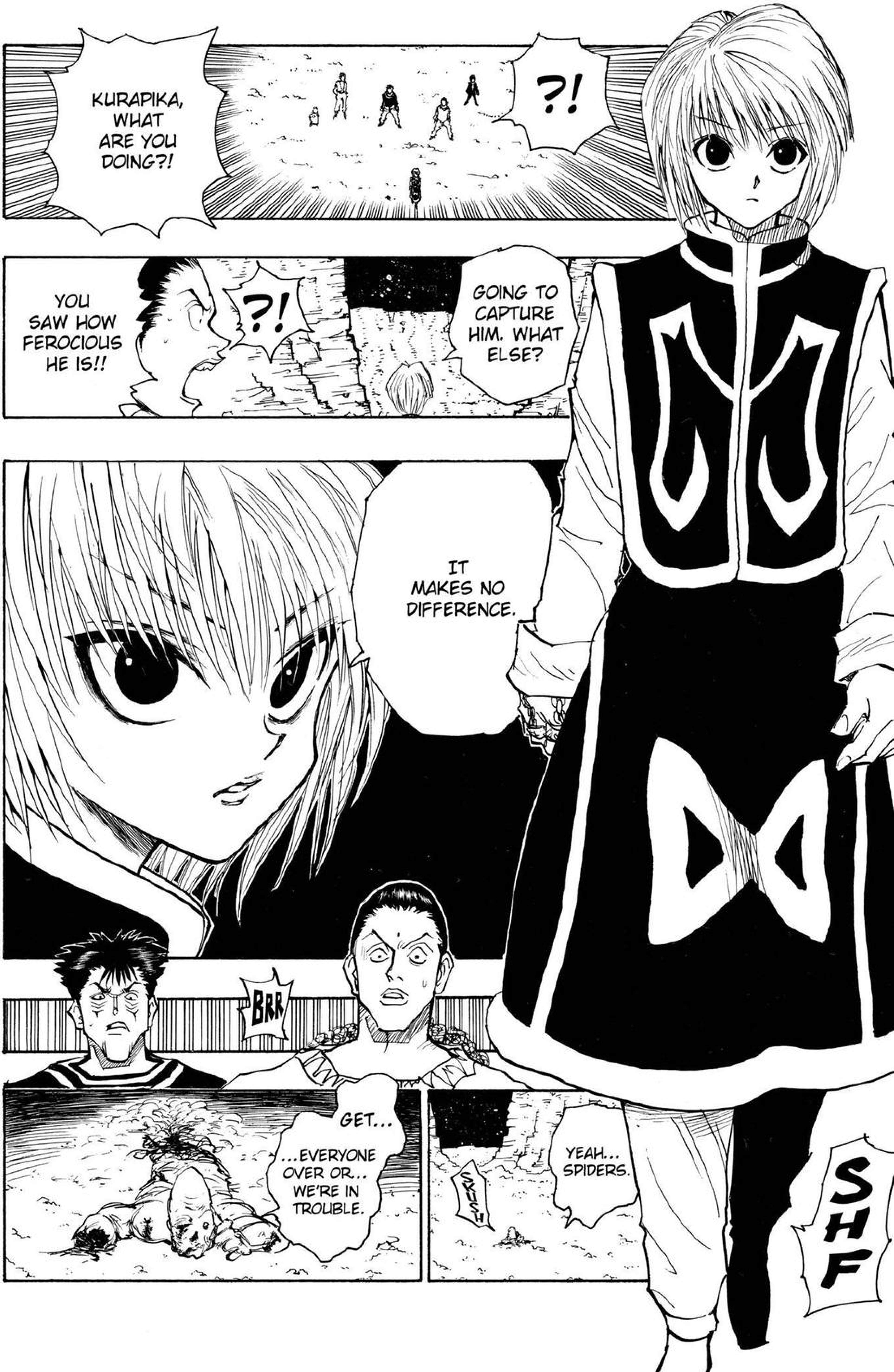

PUFF
PFUH
A BULLET?!
A PIECE OF LEECH'S SKULL!!
FOOOM


POP!!
!
!
!
PUFF
URK!
YEP, MY HAIR WILL DEFLECT ANY BULLET!!
HE CAN'T HURT ME!!
HAH

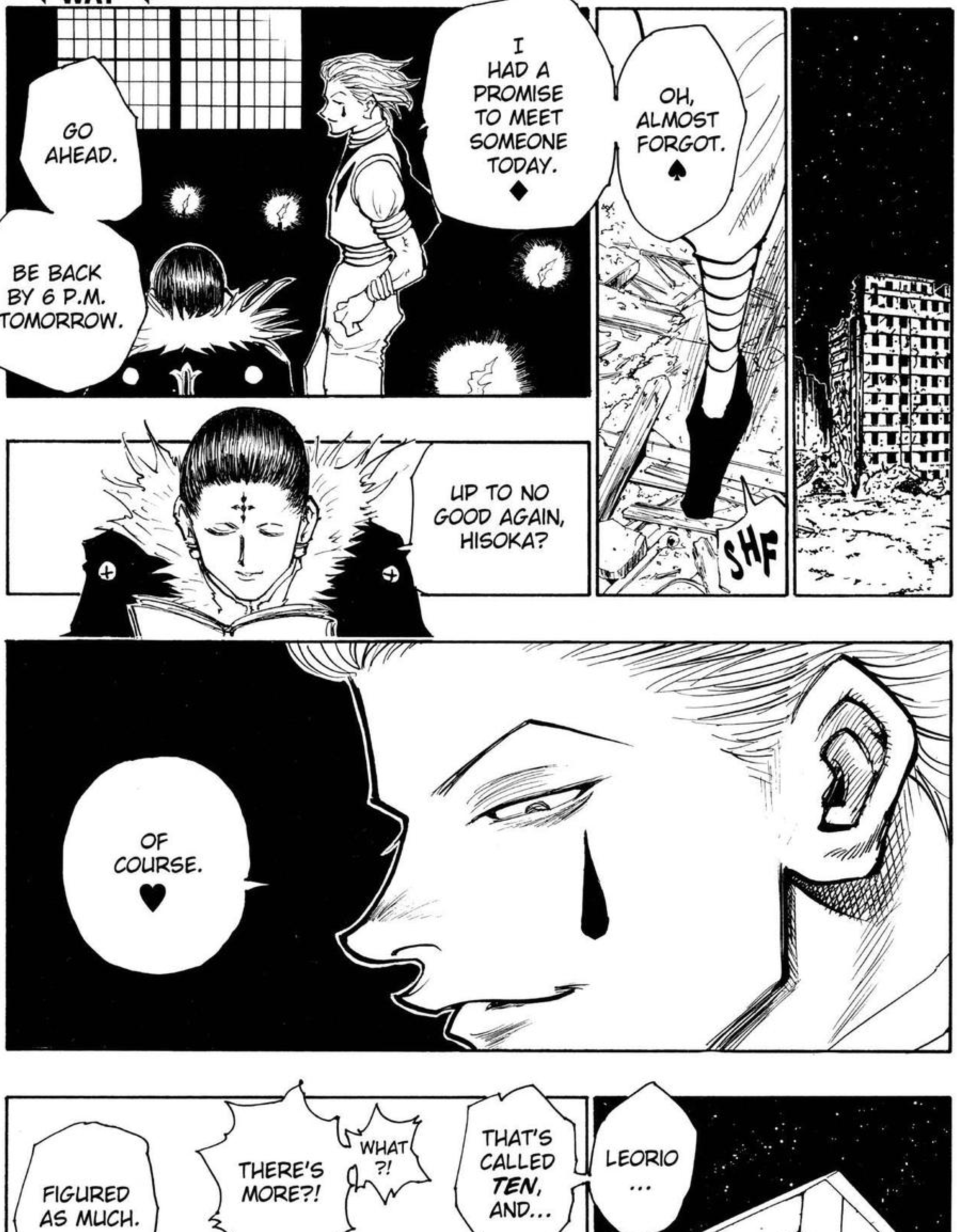

ZING NNG
CLANK CLUNK
THUD
NEEDLES CAN'T DEFLECT *SOUND.*
YOU WANNA BUST OUR EARDRUMS, TOO?!
WARN US FIRST!!
SORRY!
BUT THAT WOULDA GIVEN HIM A HEADS-UP!

READ THIS WAY

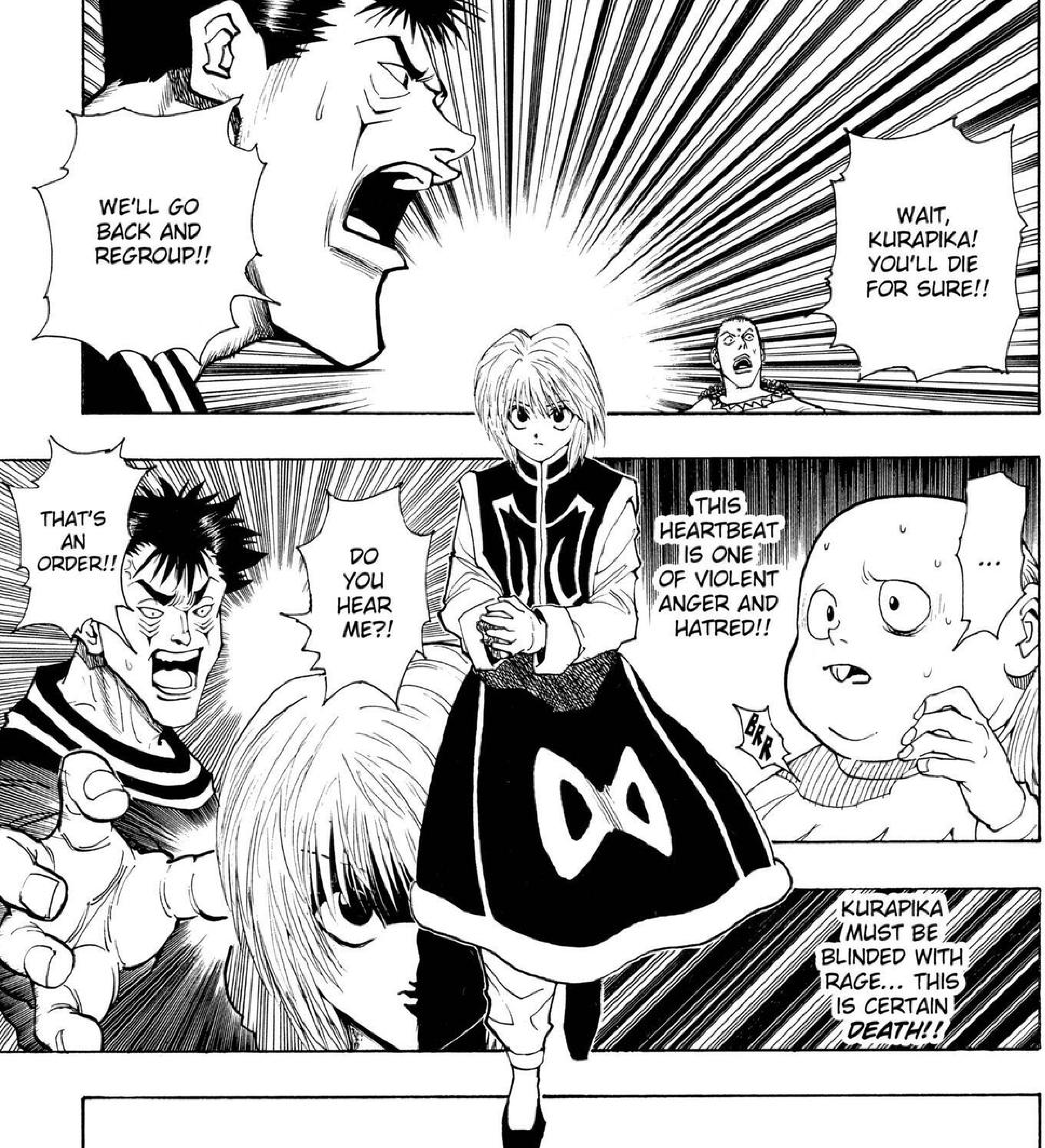

BESIDES, YOU'RE FAST ENOUGH TO COVER YOUR EARS...
...BEFORE THE SOUND REACHES YOU!
SO WHO CARES?
TRUE.
SHIZUKU, COULD YOU GET BLINKY TO SUCK OUT...
...THE POISON AND THE LEECHES?
THE POISON, YEAH, BUT NOT LIVING THINGS!
BWONG
WHAT?!
OH, CRAP.
TMP
THIS IS A SPOTTED LEECH. THEY REACH THE BLADDERS OF MEN AND BEASTS IN 24 HOURS, LAY EGGS, AND DIE.
THE EGGS HATCH AND GET EXCRETED ALONG WITH URINE. THE PAIN WILL BE ENOUGH TO KILL YOU.
BUT AN ALKALINE ENVIRONMENT IS REQUIRED FOR THE EGGS TO HATCH.
THE UNHATCHED EGGS WILL PASS PAINLESSLY WITH THE URINE IF THE PH IS TOO LOW.
FROM NOW UNTIL THIS TIME TOMORROW, DRINK BEER CONSTANTLY AND PEE AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE.
ONCE YOUR URINE TURNS FROM BLACK TO WHITE, YOU'RE IN THE CLEAR.
SQUISH


KURAPIKA, WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
?!
YOU SAW HOW FEROCIOUS HE IS!!
?!
GOING TO CAPTURE HIM. WHAT ELSE?
IT MAKES NO DIFFERENCE.
BRR
GET...
...EVERYONE OVER OR... WE'RE IN TROUBLE.
SKUSH
YEAH... SPIDERS.
SHF

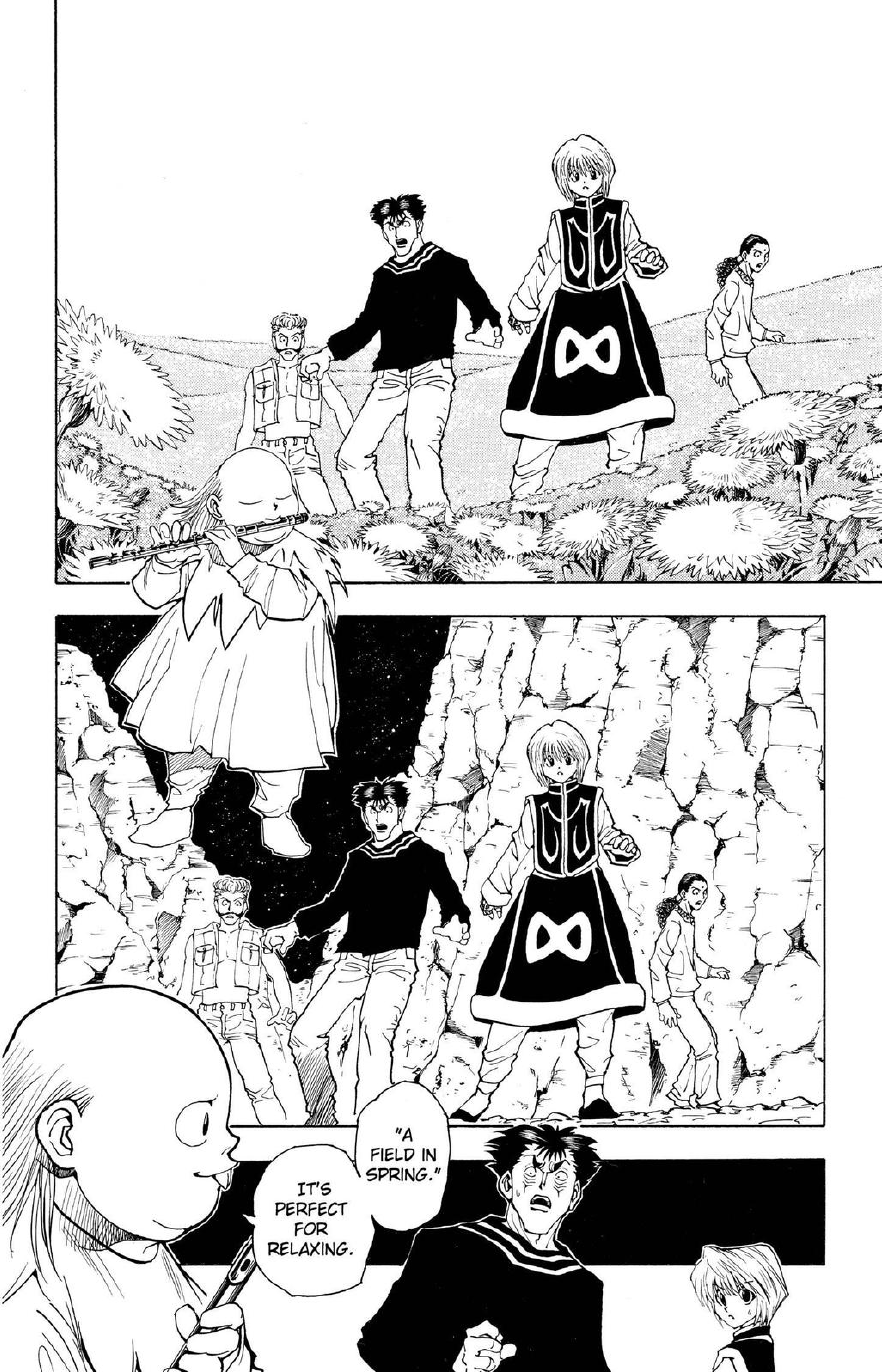
READ THIS WAY

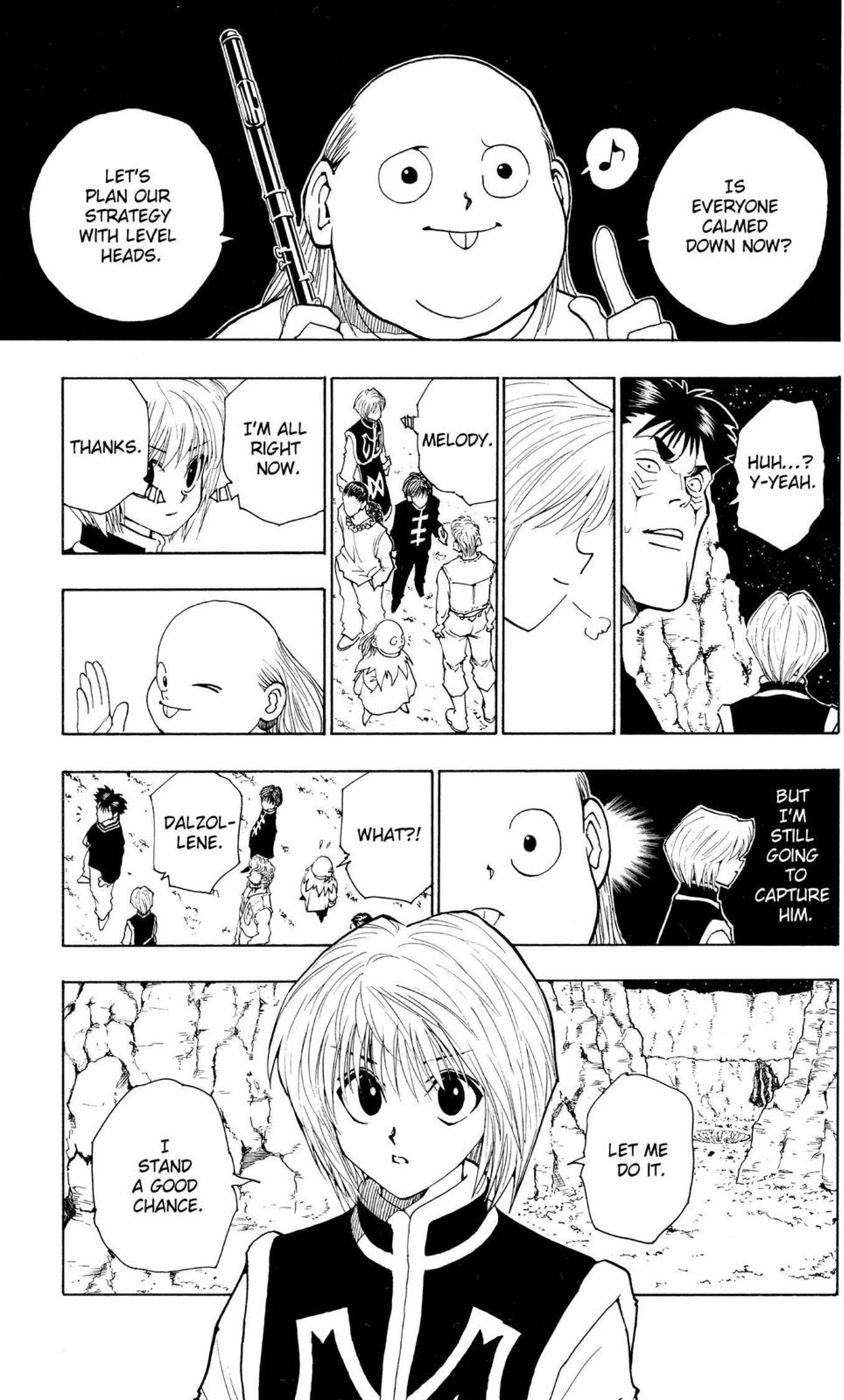

SHF
OH, ALMOST FORGOT. ♠
I HAD A PROMISE TO MEET SOMEONE TODAY. ♦
GO AHEAD.
BE BACK BY 6 P.M. TOMORROW.
UP TO NO GOOD AGAIN, HISOKA?
OF COURSE. ♥
LEORIO ...
THAT'S CALLED *TEN*, AND...
WHAT ?!
THERE'S MORE?!
FIGURED AS MUCH.

SQUISH


WAIT, KURAPIKA! YOU'LL DIE FOR SURE!!
WE'LL GO BACK AND REGROUP!!
...
THIS HEARTBEAT IS ONE OF VIOLENT ANGER AND HATRED!!
BRR
DO YOU HEAR ME?!
THAT'S AN ORDER!!
KURAPIKA MUST BE BLINDED WITH RAGE... THIS IS CERTAIN *DEATH!!*
?!

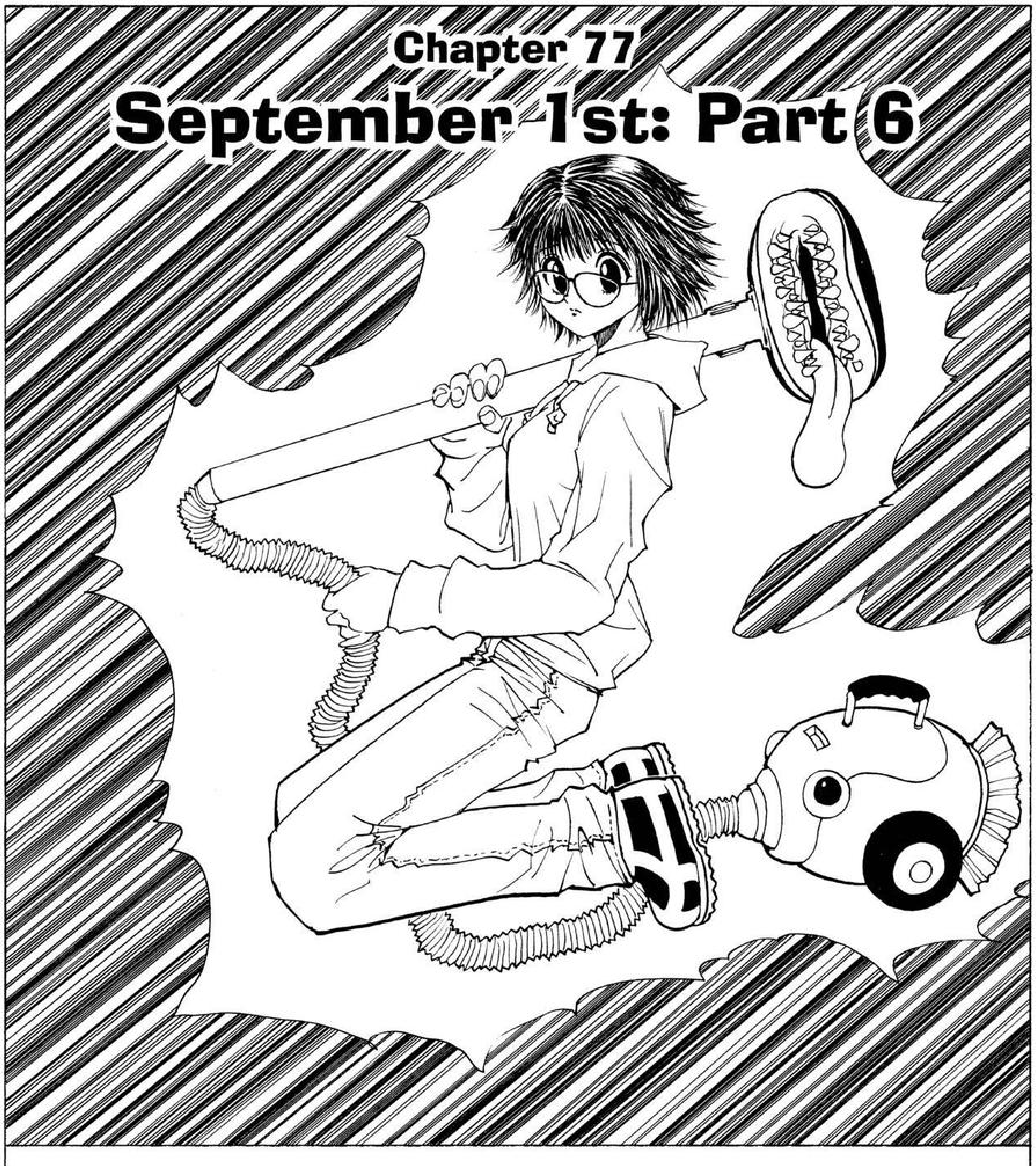
Chapter 77
September 1st: Part 6


"A FIELD IN SPRING."
IT'S PERFECT FOR RELAXING.


♪
IS EVERYONE CALMED DOWN NOW?
LET'S PLAN OUR STRATEGY WITH LEVEL HEADS.
HUH...? Y-YEAH.
MELODY.
I'M ALL RIGHT NOW.
THANKS.
BUT I'M STILL GOING TO CAPTURE HIM.
WHAT?!
DALZOLLENE.
LET ME DO IT.
I STAND A GOOD CHANCE.

Chapter 77

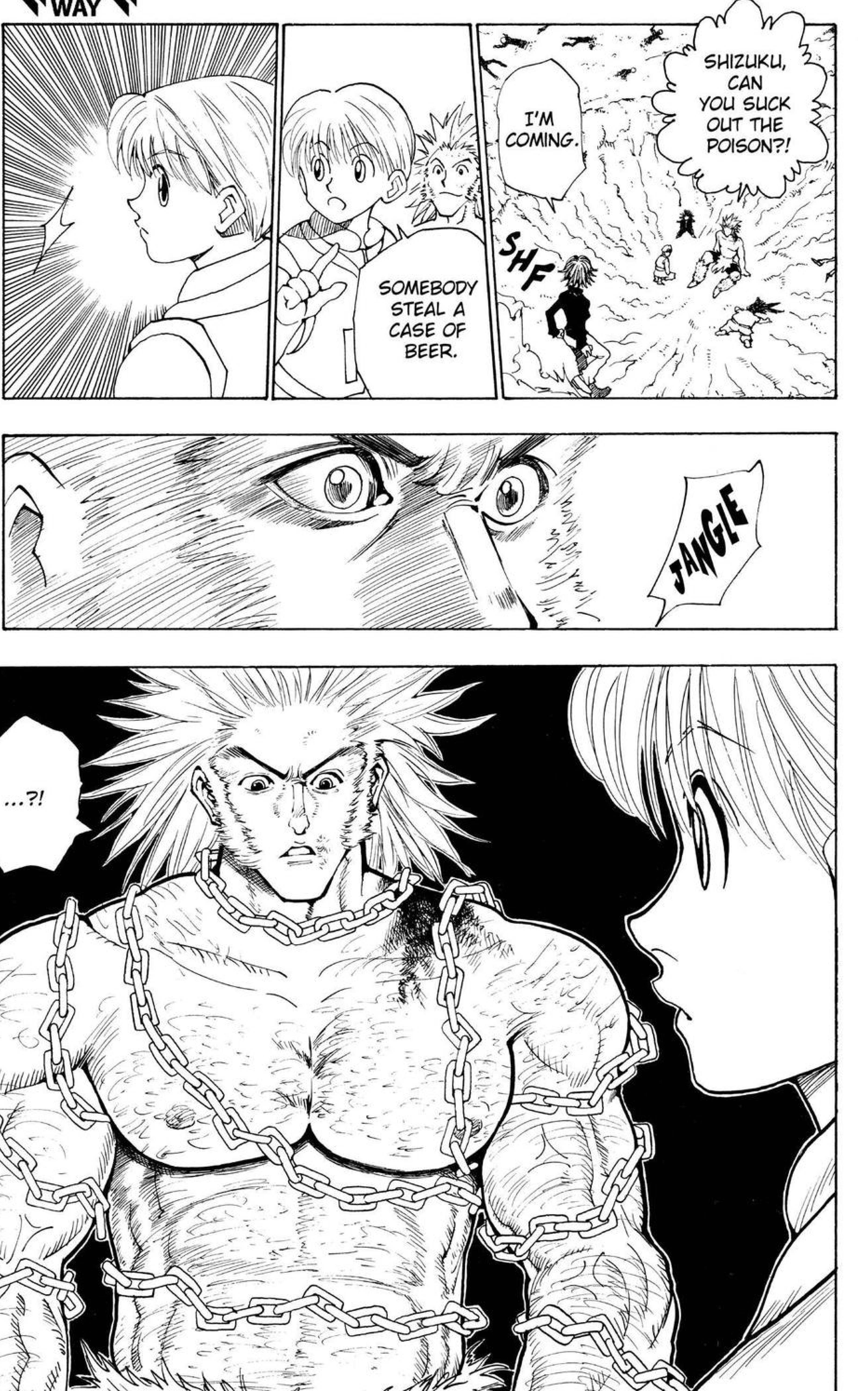
September 1st: Part 6

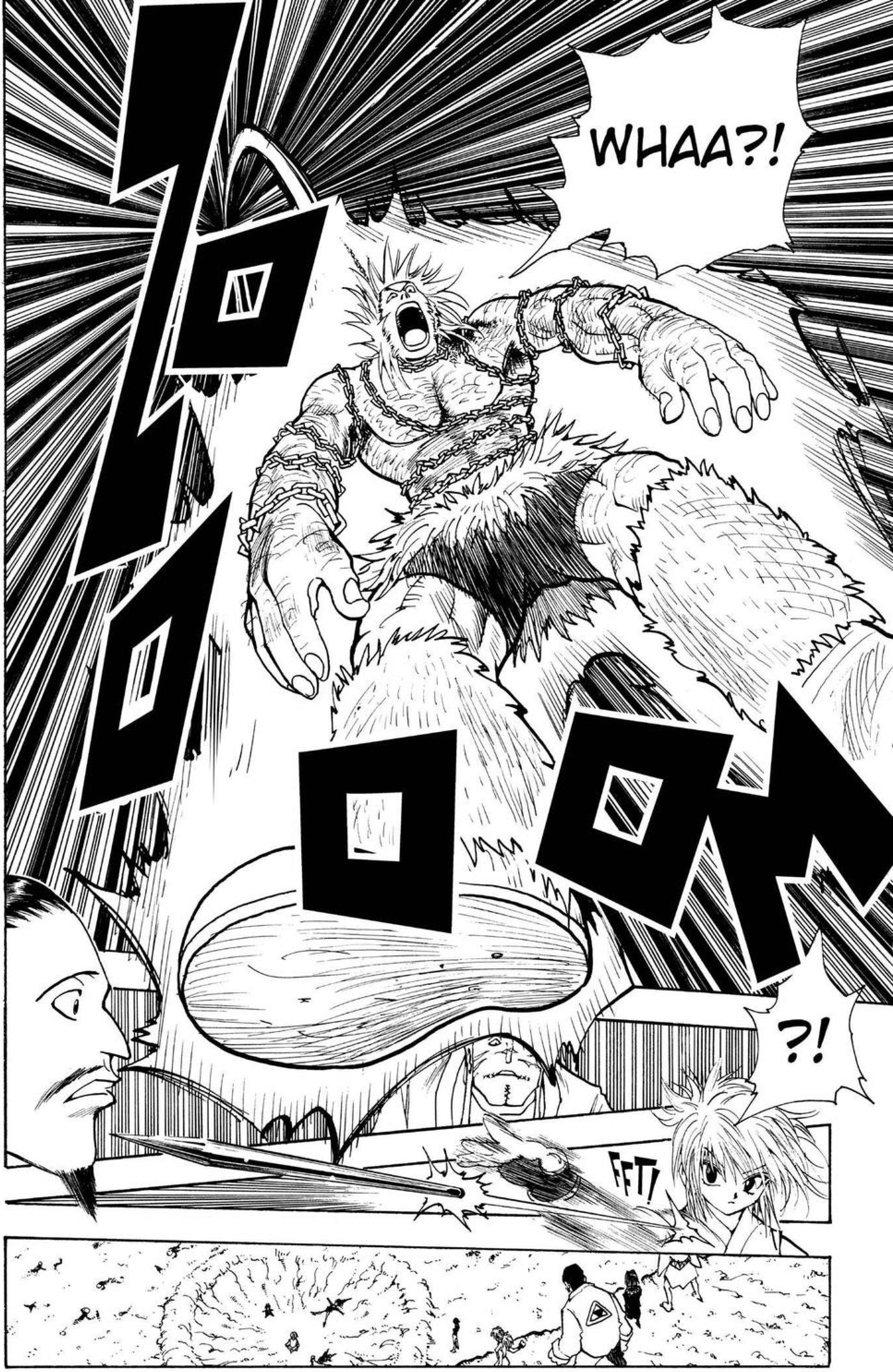


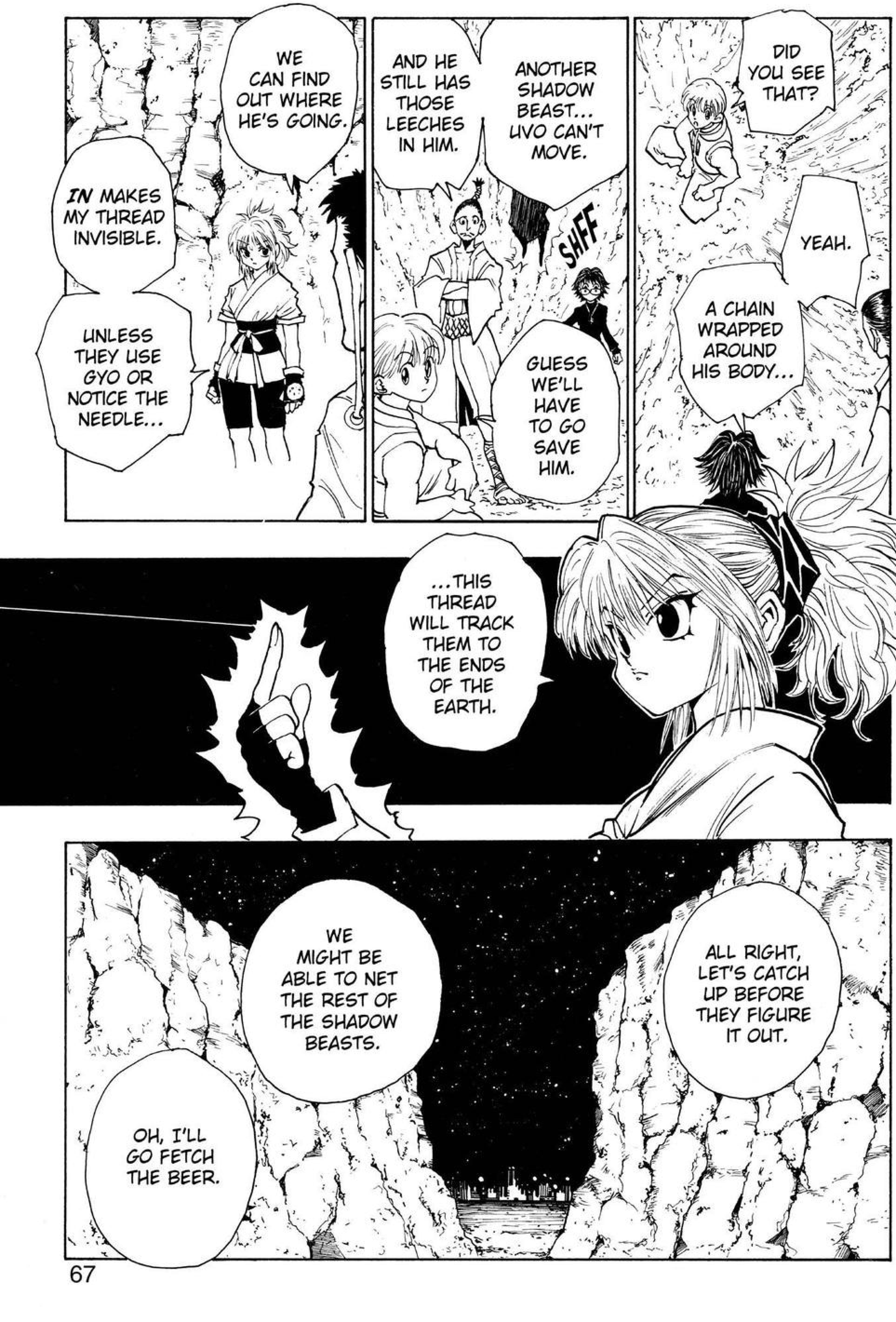
SHIZUKU (CONJURER)

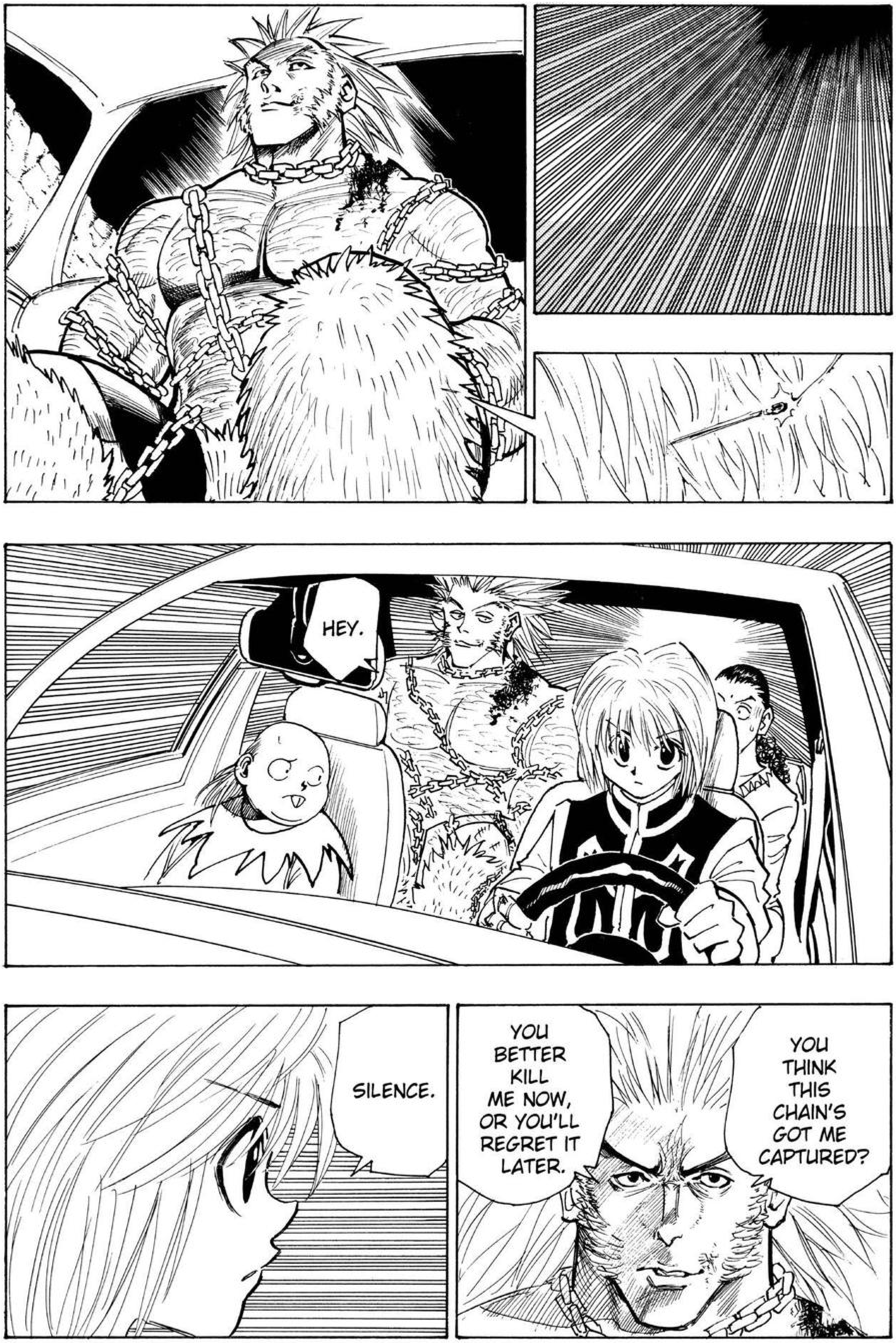
SHE USES BLINKY, A CONJURED VACUUM CLEANER, AS A WEAPON. IT SUCKS UP ANYTHING THAT SHIZUKU WANTS; HOWEVER, IT CANNOT SUCK UP ANYTHING THAT SHE CONSIDERS LIVING. IT CAN ALSO REGURGITATE THE LAST THING IT SUCKED UP. NOT EVEN SHIZUKU KNOWS WHERE IT ALL GOES.

READ THIS WAY

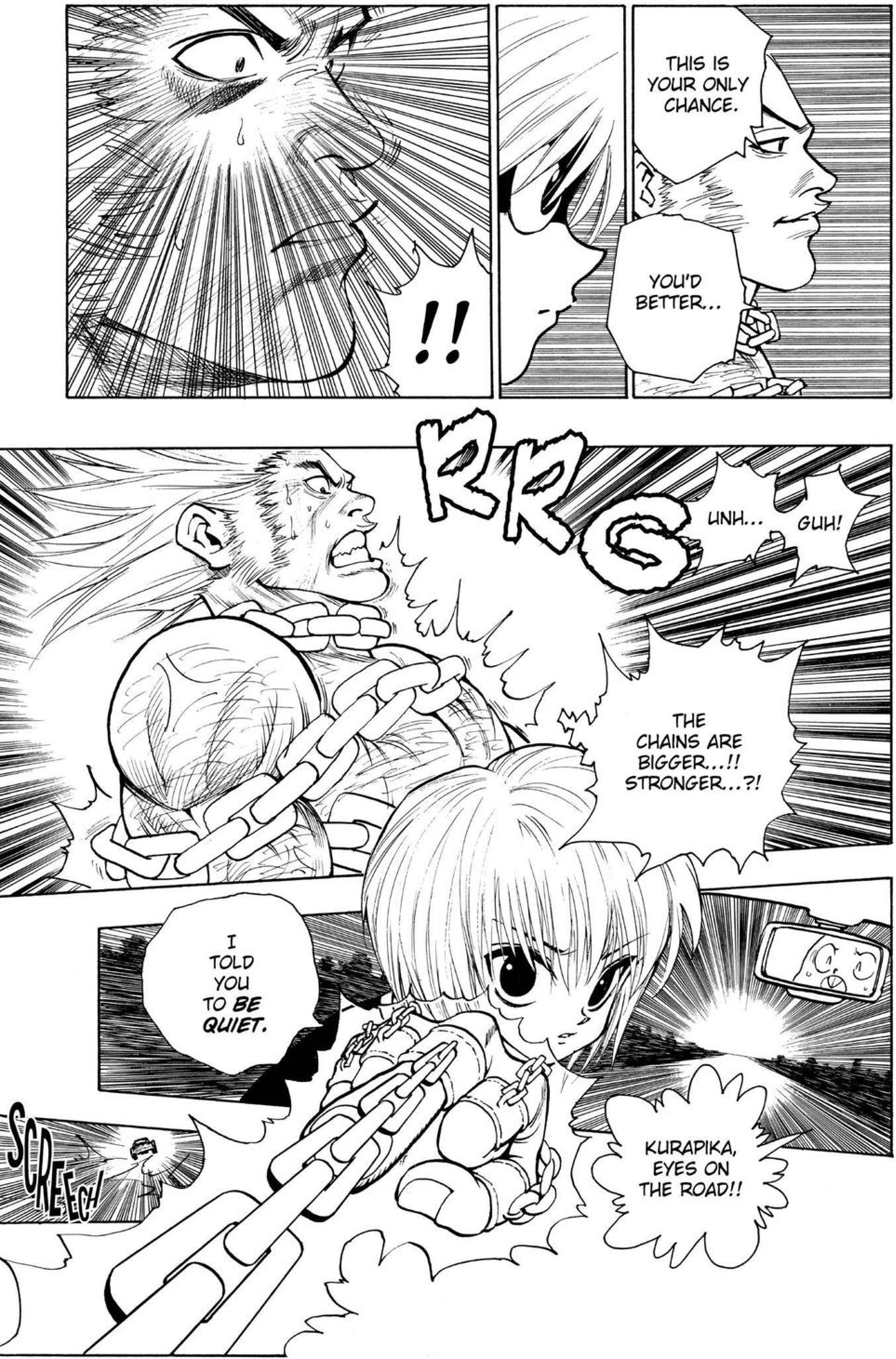

SHIZUKU, CAN YOU SUCK OUT THE POISON?!
I'M COMING.
SHF
SOMEBODY STEAL A CASE OF BEER.
JANGLE
...?!

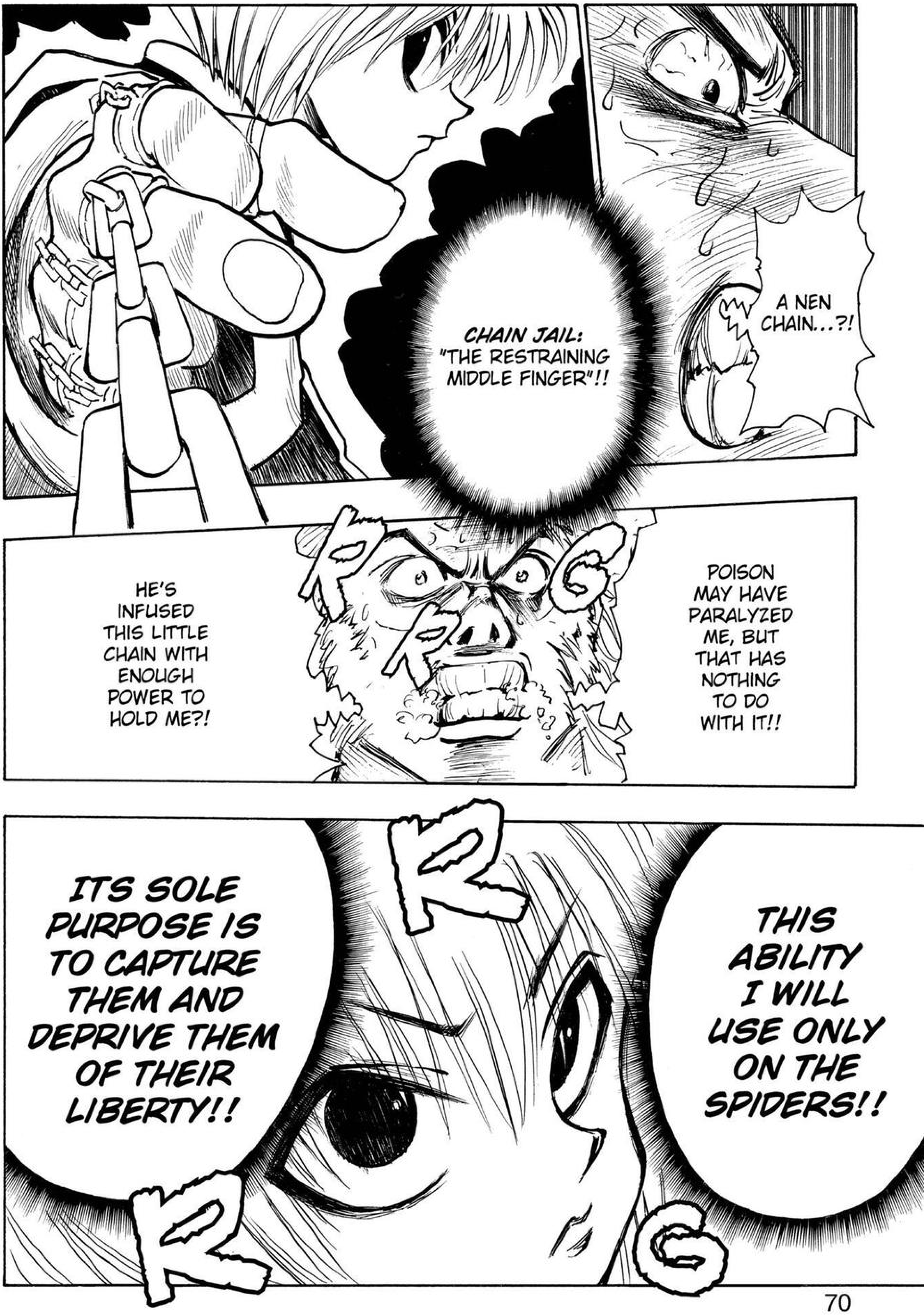

WHAA?!
DOOOM
?!
FFT!

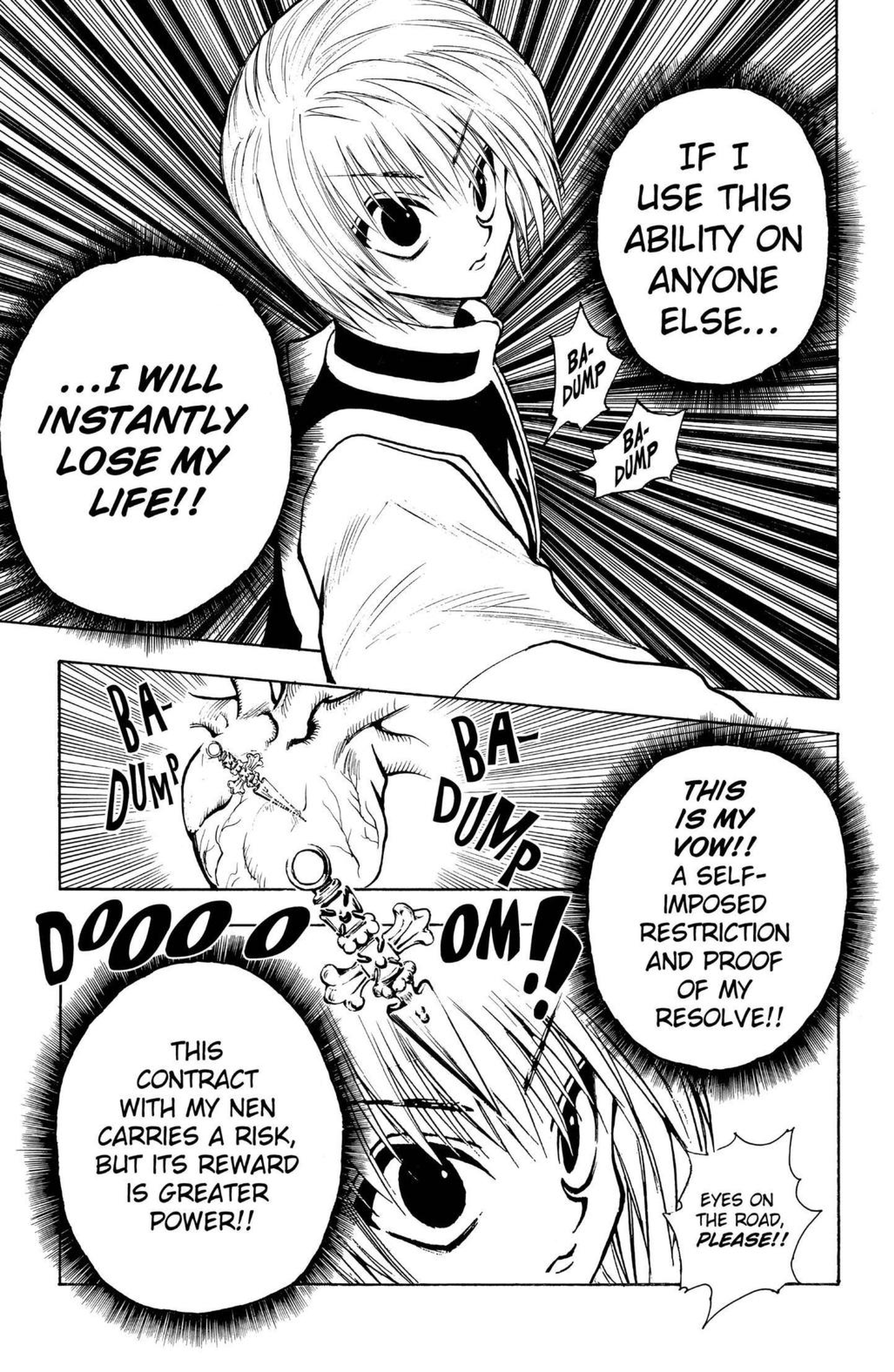

DID YOU SEE THAT?
YEAH.
A CHAIN WRAPPED AROUND HIS BODY...
ANOTHER SHADOW BEAST... UVO CAN'T MOVE.
AND HE STILL HAS THOSE LEECHES IN HIM.
SHFF
GUESS WE'LL HAVE TO GO SAVE HIM.
WE CAN FIND OUT WHERE HE'S GOING.
IN MAKES MY THREAD INVISIBLE.
UNLESS THEY USE GYO OR NOTICE THE NEEDLE...
...THIS THREAD WILL TRACK THEM TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH.
ALL RIGHT, LET'S CATCH UP BEFORE THEY FIGURE IT OUT.
WE MIGHT BE ABLE TO NET THE REST OF THE SHADOW BEASTS.
OH, I'LL GO FETCH THE BEER.

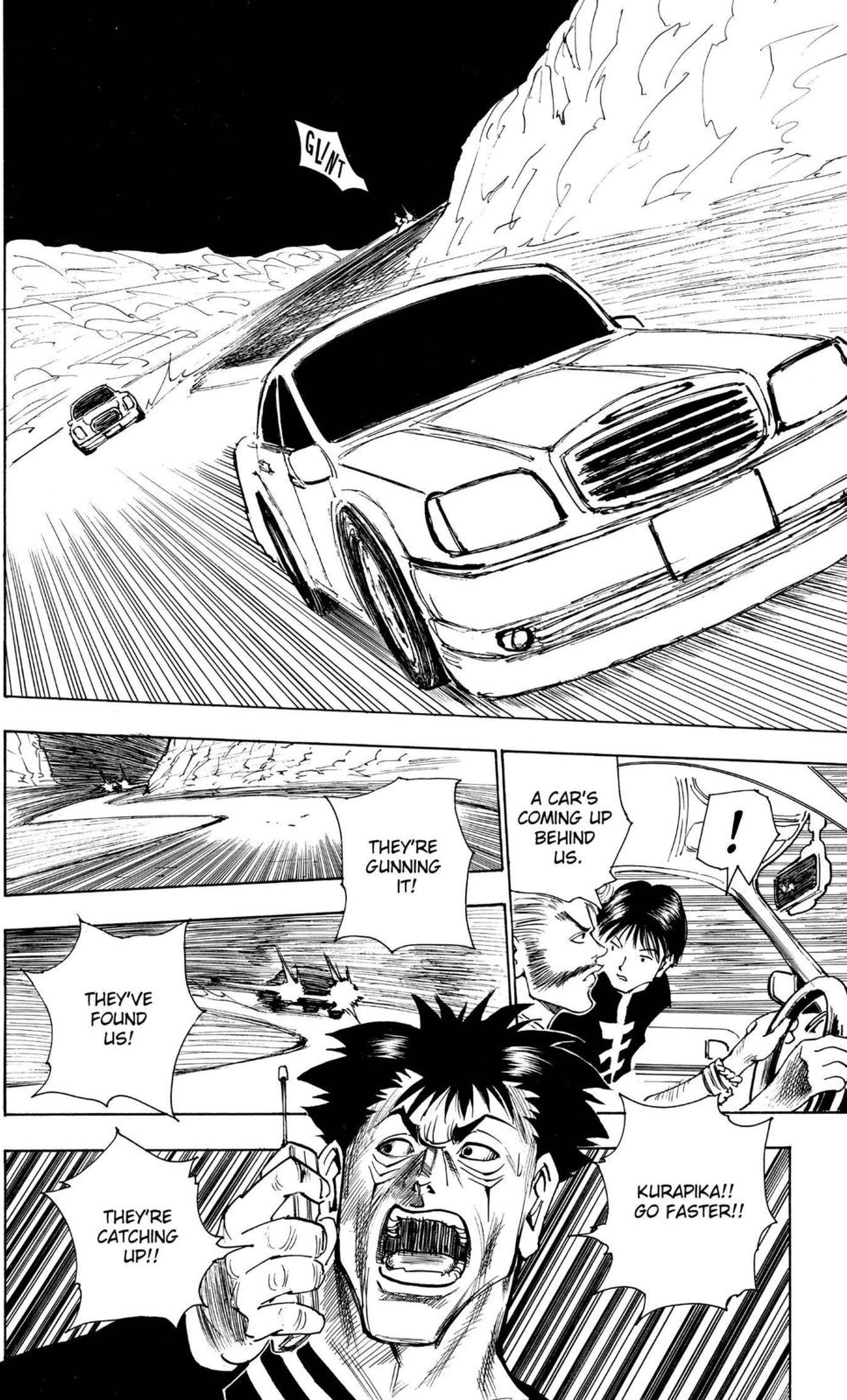

HEY.
YOU THINK THIS CHAIN'S GOT ME CAPTURED?
YOU BETTER KILL ME NOW, OR YOU'LL REGRET IT LATER.
SILENCE.

READ THIS WAY

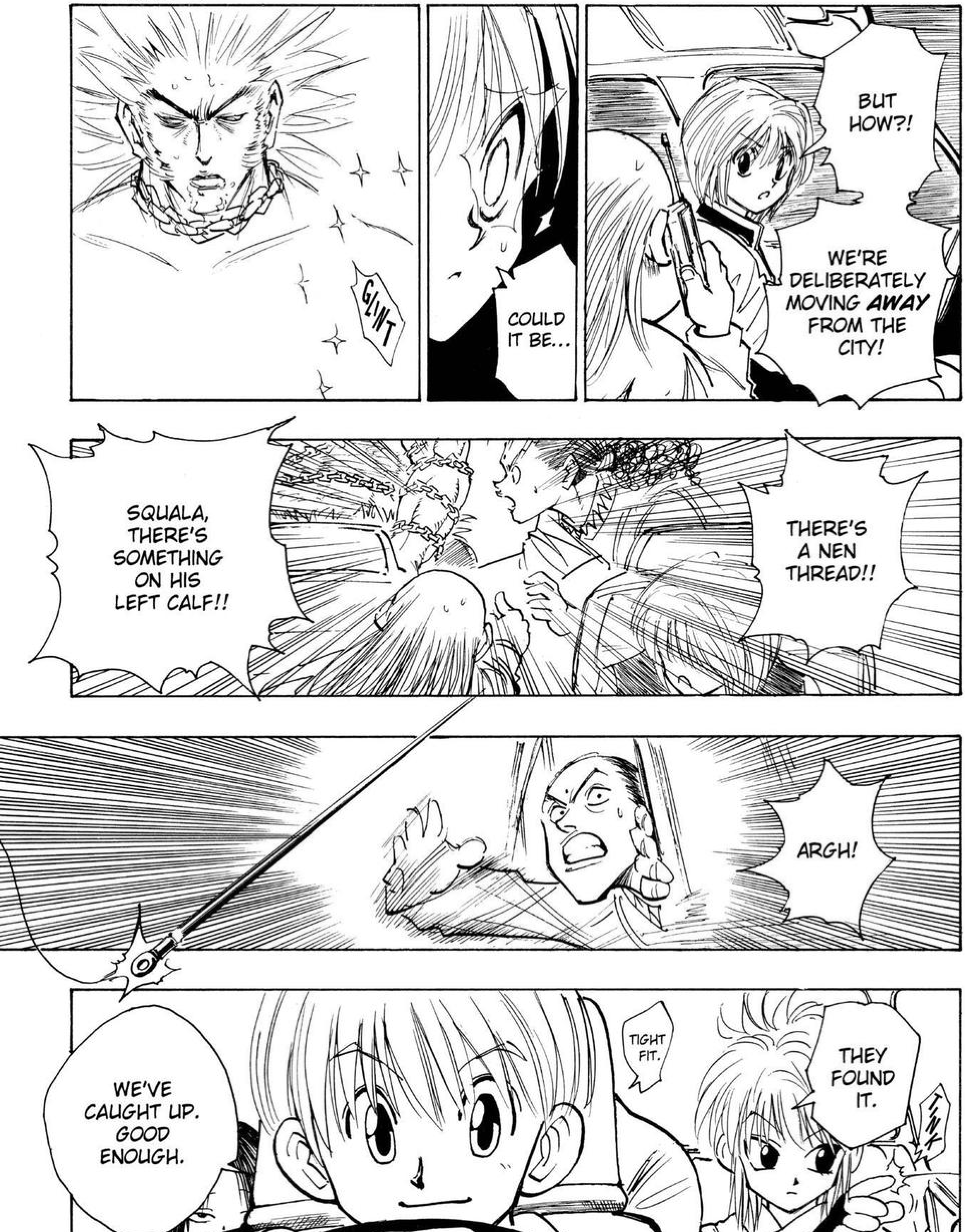

THIS IS YOUR ONLY CHANCE.
YOU'D BETTER...
!!
RRG
UNH... GUH!
THE CHAINS ARE BIGGER...!! STRONGER...?!
I TOLD YOU TO *BE QUIET*.
KURAPIKA, EYES ON THE ROAD!!
SCREECH!

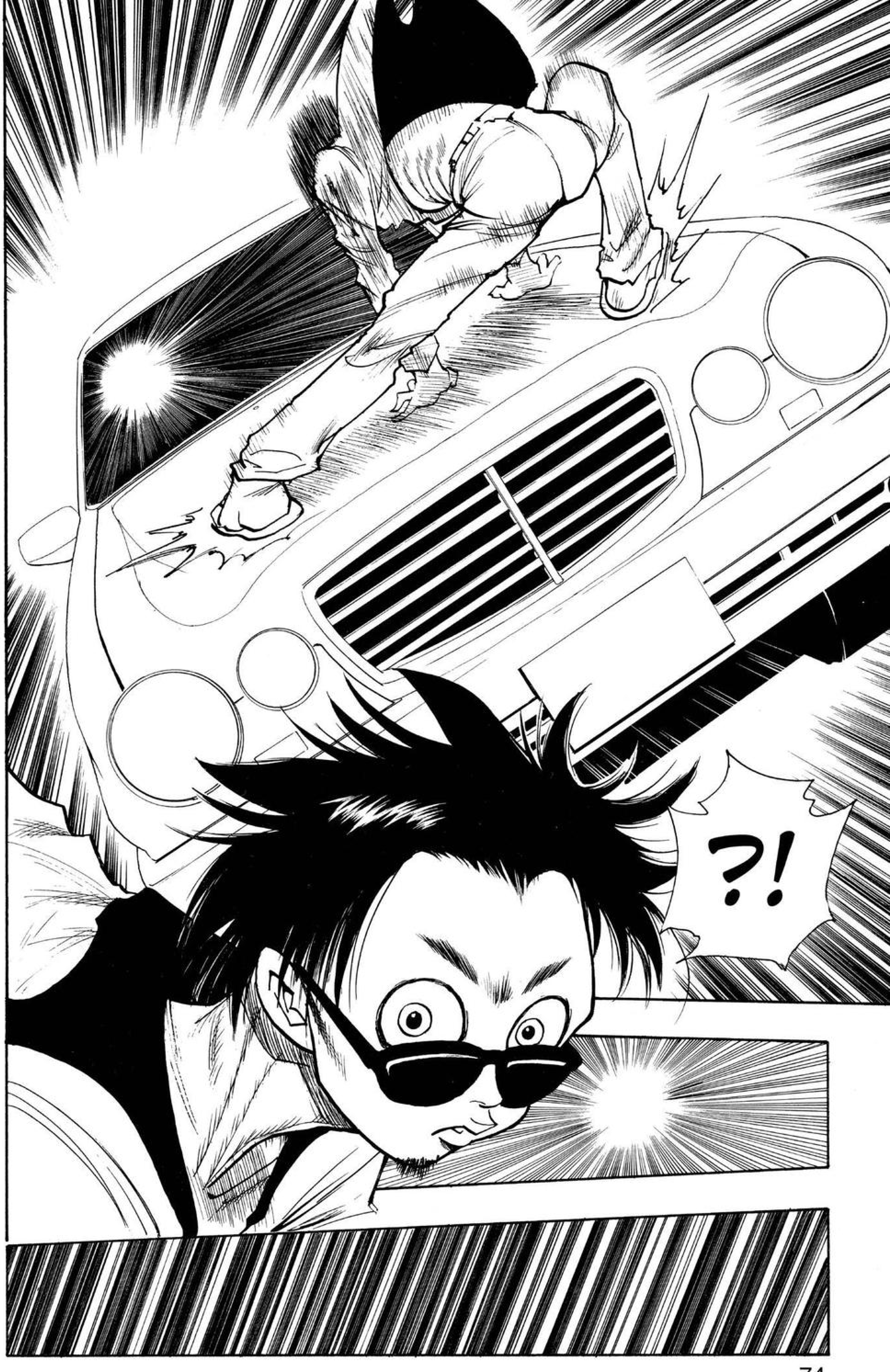

A NEN CHAIN...?!
CHAIN JAIL: "THE RESTRAINING MIDDLE FINGER"!!
POISON MAY HAVE PARALYZED ME, BUT THAT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH IT!!
HE'S INFUSED THIS LITTLE CHAIN WITH ENOUGH POWER TO HOLD ME?!
THIS ABILITY I WILL USE ONLY ON THE SPIDERS!!
ITS SOLE PURPOSE IS TO CAPTURE THEM AND DEPRIVE THEM OF THEIR LIBERTY!!

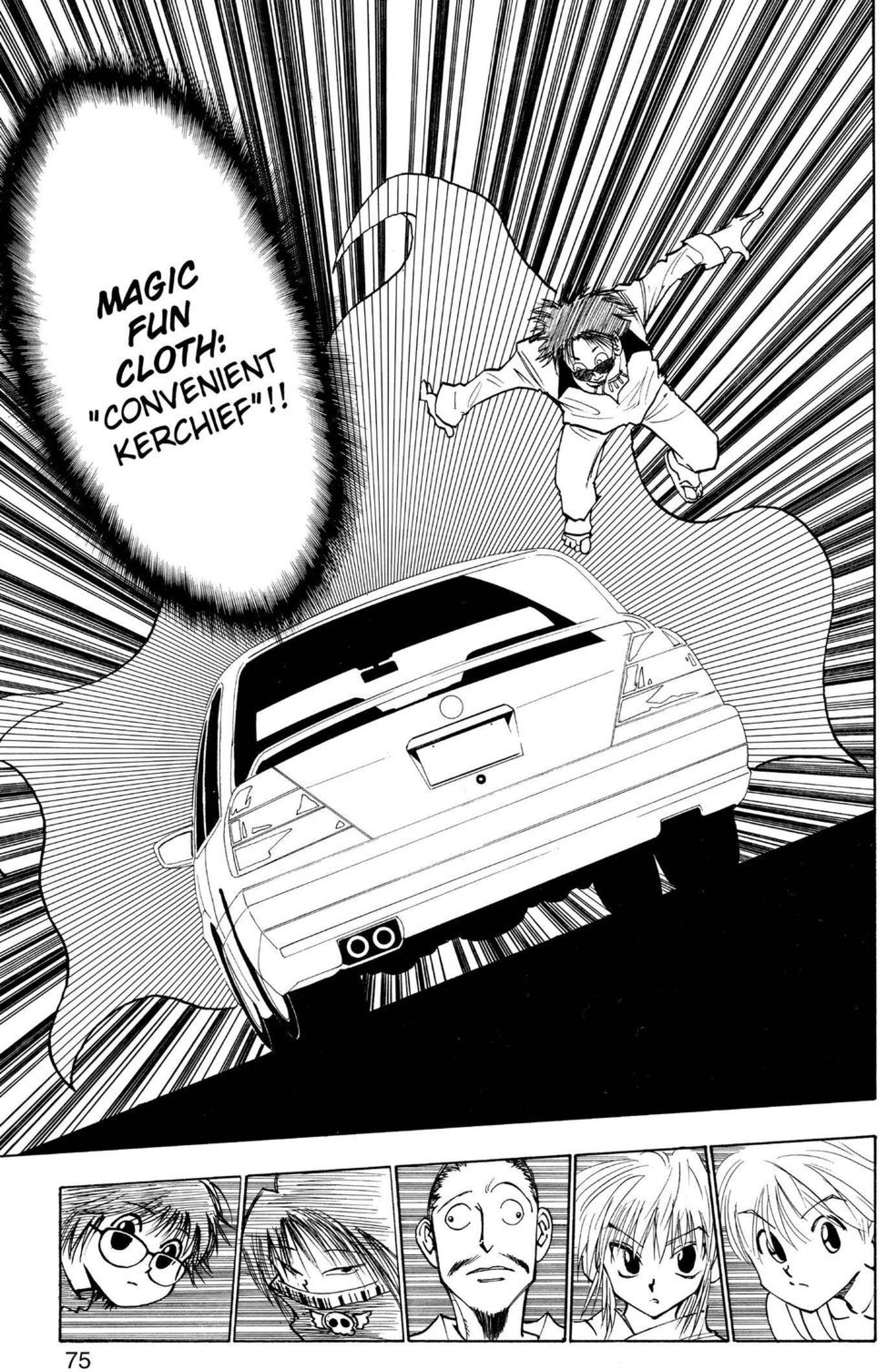

IF I USE THIS ABILITY ON ANYONE ELSE...
BA-DUMP
BA-DUMP
...I WILL INSTANTLY LOSE MY LIFE!!
BA-DUMP
BA-DUMP
THIS IS MY VOW!! A SELF-IMPOSED RESTRICTION AND PROOF OF MY RESOLVE!!
DOOO-O-OM!!
THIS CONTRACT WITH MY NEN CARRIES A RISK, BUT ITS REWARD IS GREATER POWER!!
EYES ON THE ROAD, PLEASE!!

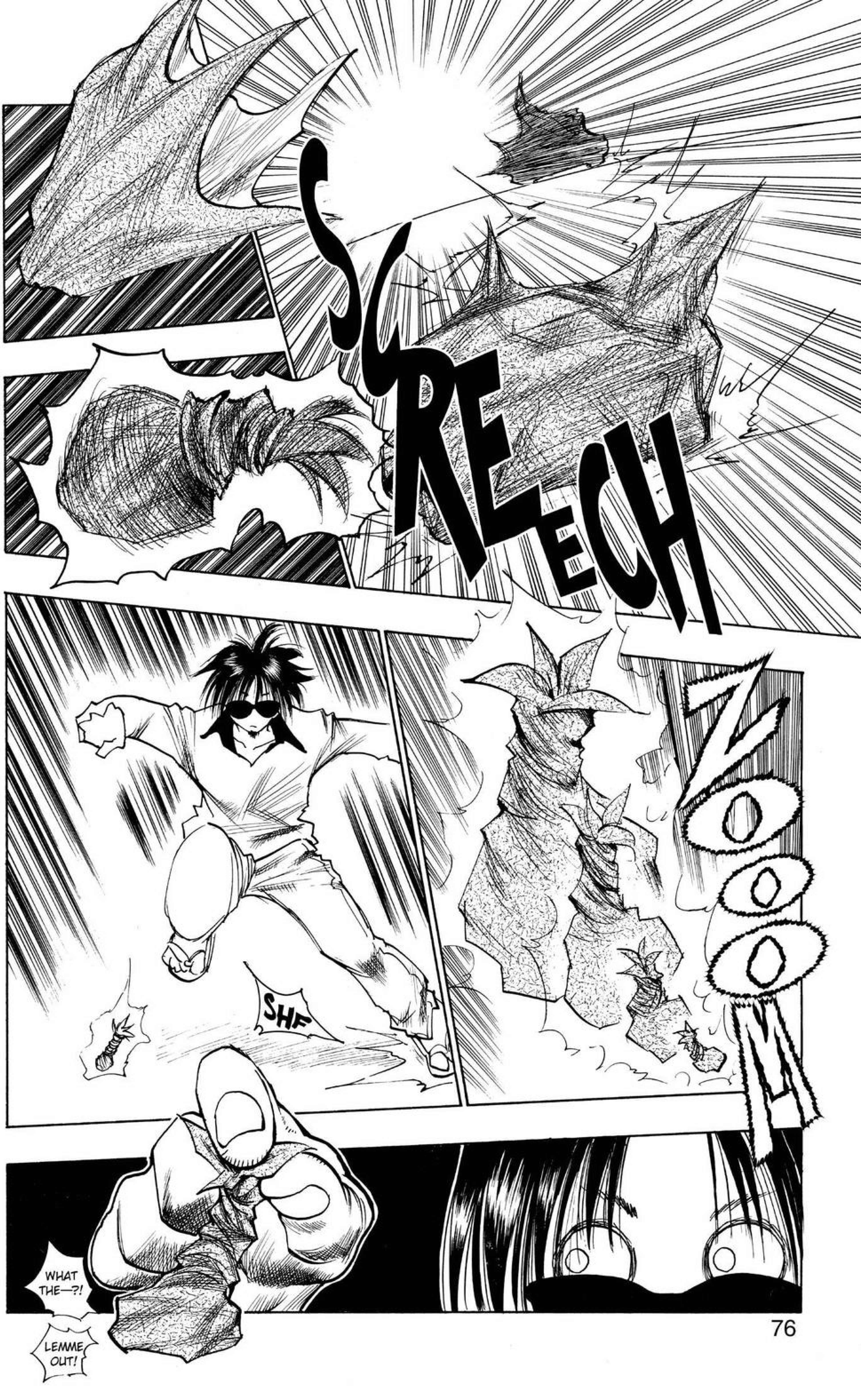

GLINT
A CAR'S COMING UP BEHIND US.
!
THEY'RE GUNNING IT!
THEY'VE FOUND US!
KURAPIKA!! GO FASTER!!
THEY'RE CATCHING UP!!

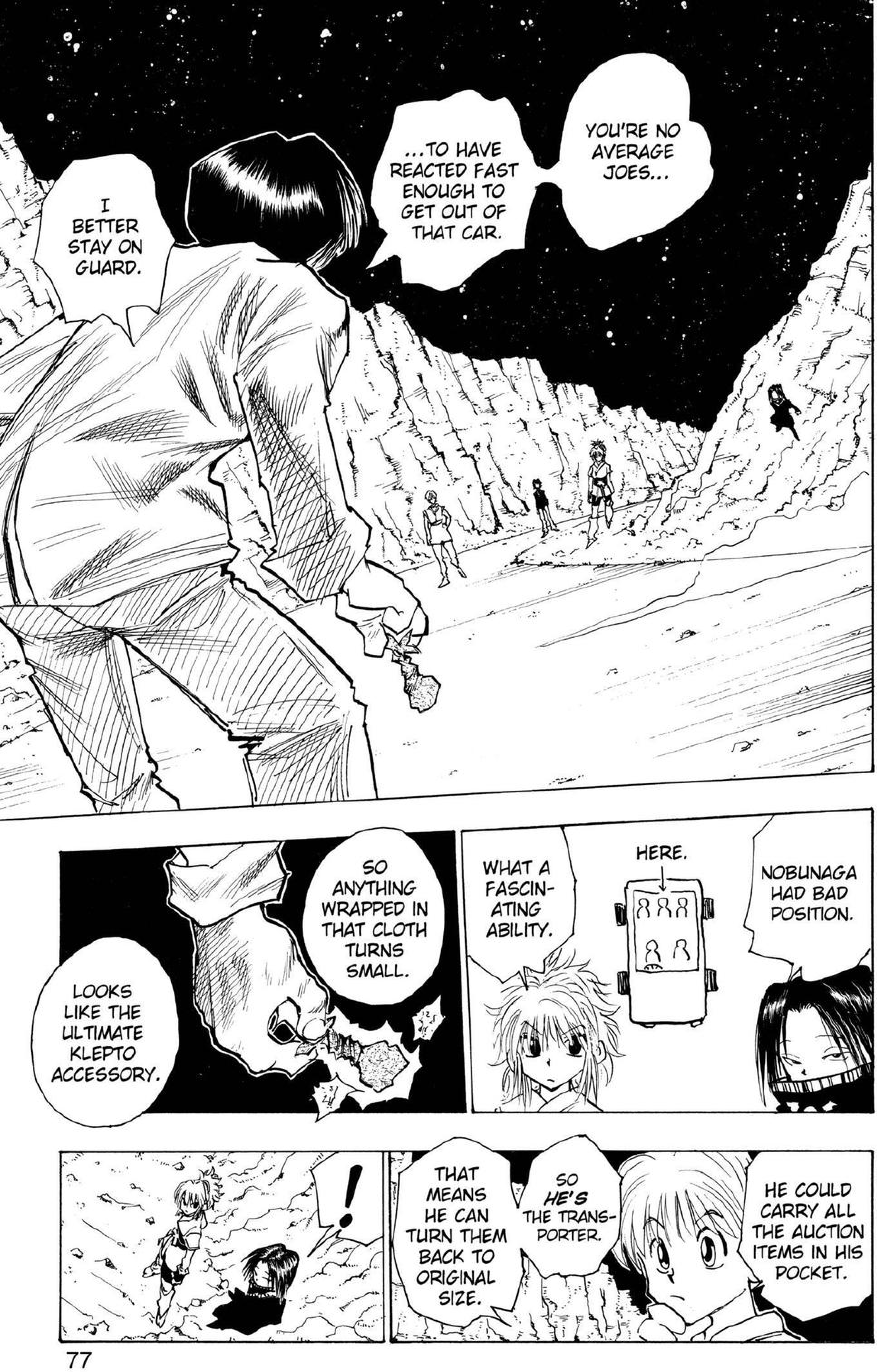
READ THIS WAY

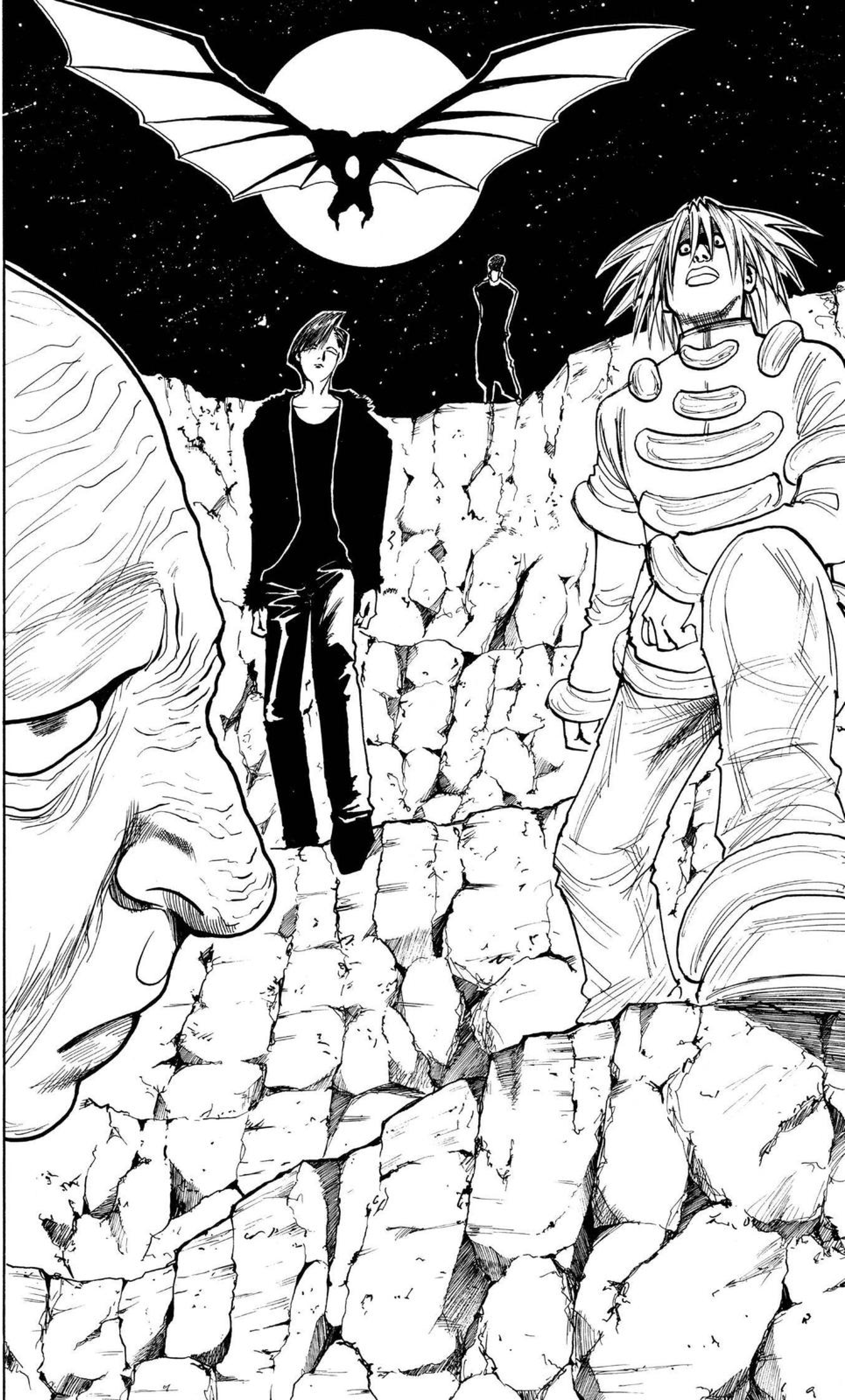

BUT HOW?!
WE'RE DELIBERATELY MOVING *AWAY* FROM THE CITY!
COULD IT BE…
GLINT
THERE'S A NEN THREAD!!
SQUALA, THERE'S SOMETHING ON HIS LEFT CALF!!
ARGH!
THEY FOUND IT.
TINK
TIGHT FIT.
WE'VE CAUGHT UP. GOOD ENOUGH.

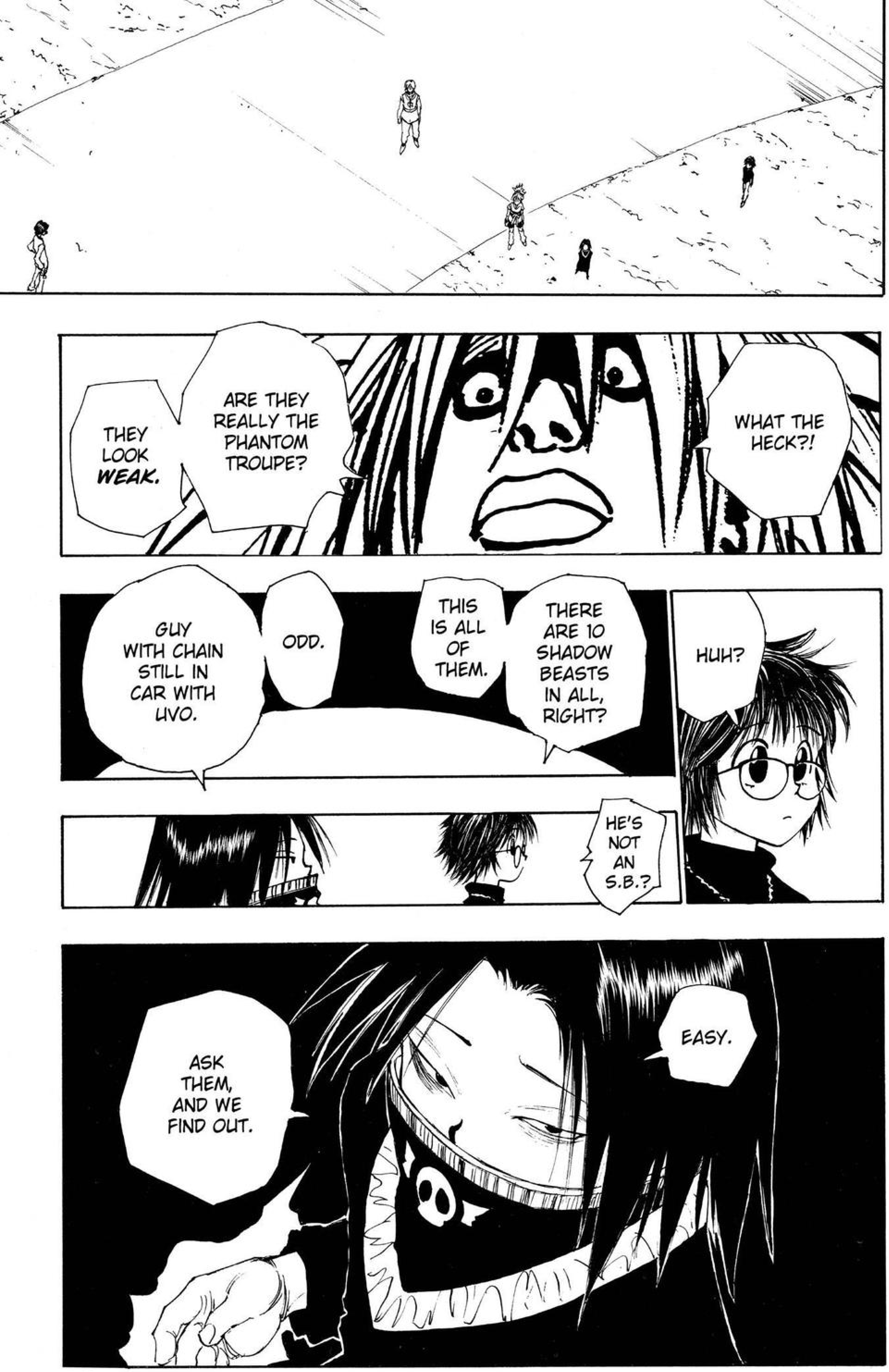



MAGIC FUN CLOTH: "CONVENIENT KERCHIEF"!!


SCREECH
SHF
ZOOOOM
WHAT THE—?!
LEMME OUT!

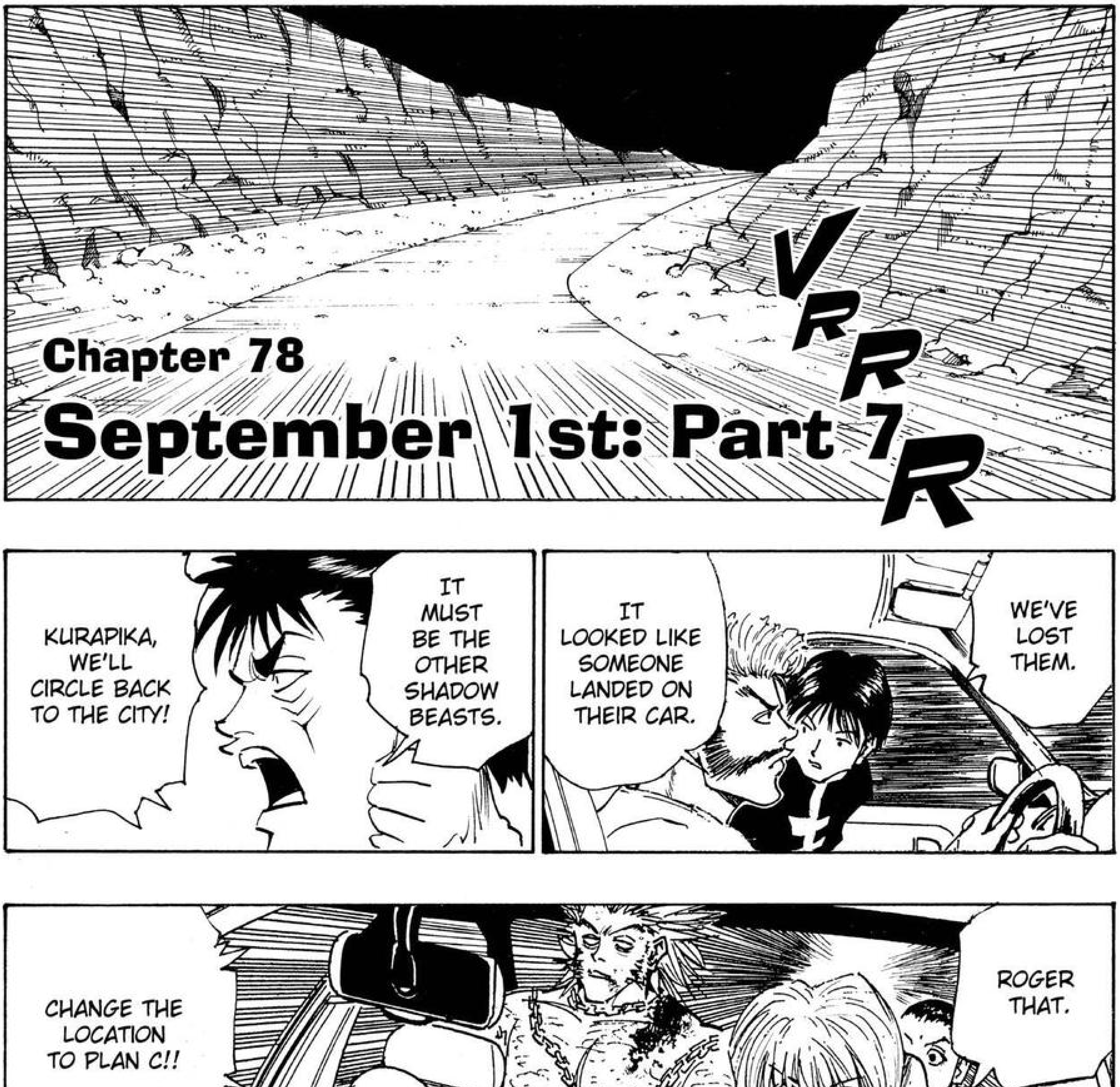

YOU'RE NO AVERAGE JOES...
...TO HAVE REACTED FAST ENOUGH TO GET OUT OF THAT CAR.
I BETTER STAY ON GUARD.
NOBUNAGA HAD BAD POSITION.
HERE.
WHAT A FASCINATING ABILITY.
SO ANYTHING WRAPPED IN THAT CLOTH TURNS SMALL.
LOOKS LIKE THE ULTIMATE KLEPTO ACCESSORY.
HE COULD CARRY ALL THE AUCTION ITEMS IN HIS POCKET.
SO *HE'S* THE TRANSPORTER.
THAT MEANS HE CAN TURN THEM BACK TO ORIGINAL SIZE.
!

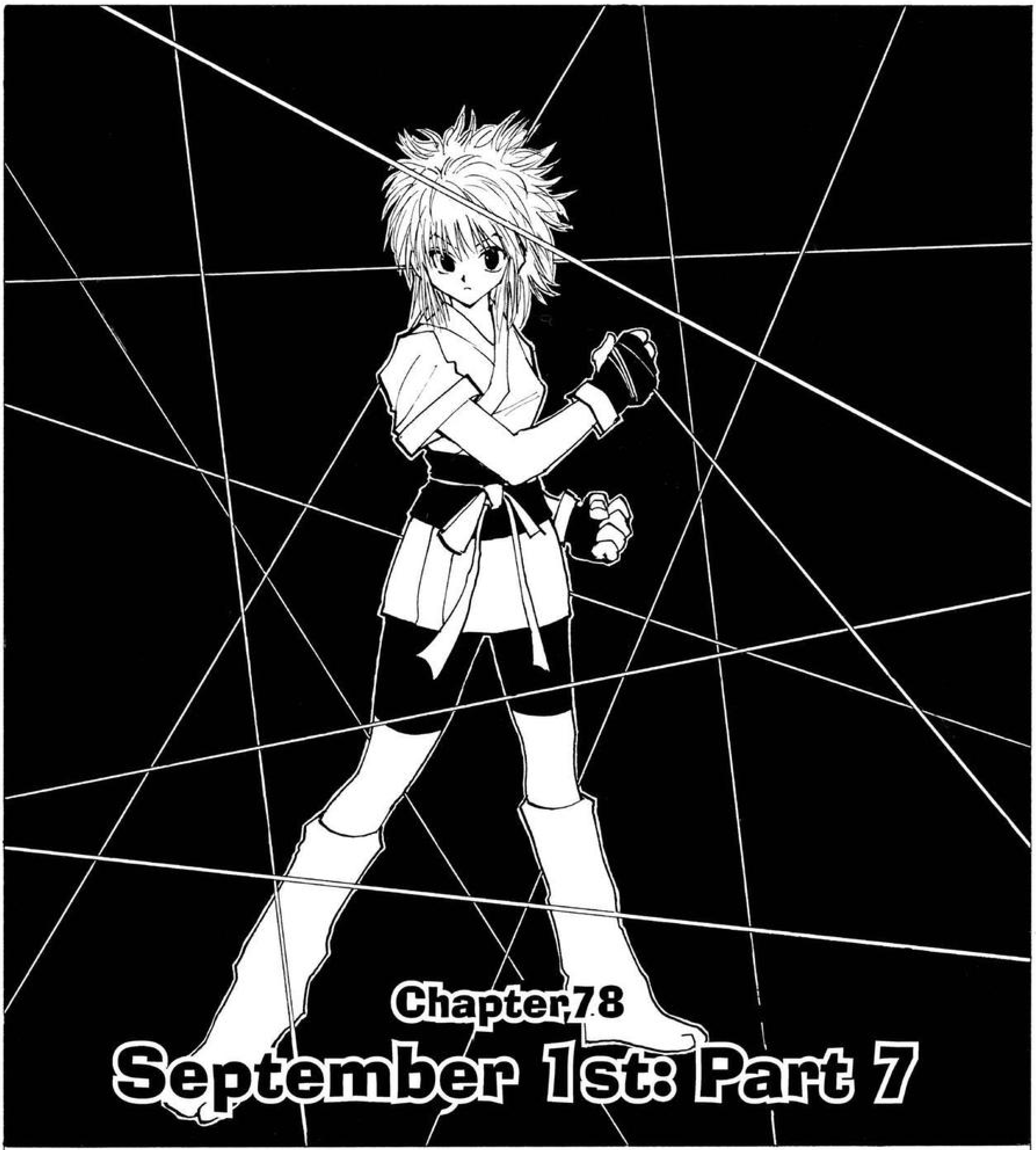



WHAT THE HECK?!
ARE THEY REALLY THE PHANTOM TROUPE?
THEY LOOK **WEAK.**
HUH?
THERE ARE 10 SHADOW BEASTS IN ALL, RIGHT?
THIS IS ALL OF THEM.
ODD.
GUY WITH CHAIN STILL IN CAR WITH UVO.
HE'S NOT AN S.B.?
EASY.
ASK THEM, AND WE FIND OUT.

Chapter 78

September 1st: Part 7


VRRRR
WE'VE LOST THEM.
IT LOOKED LIKE SOMEONE LANDED ON THEIR CAR.
IT MUST BE THE OTHER SHADOW BEASTS.
KURAPIKA, WE'LL CIRCLE BACK TO THE CITY!
ROGER THAT.
CHANGE THE LOCATION TO PLAN C!!
SCREECH
VROOM

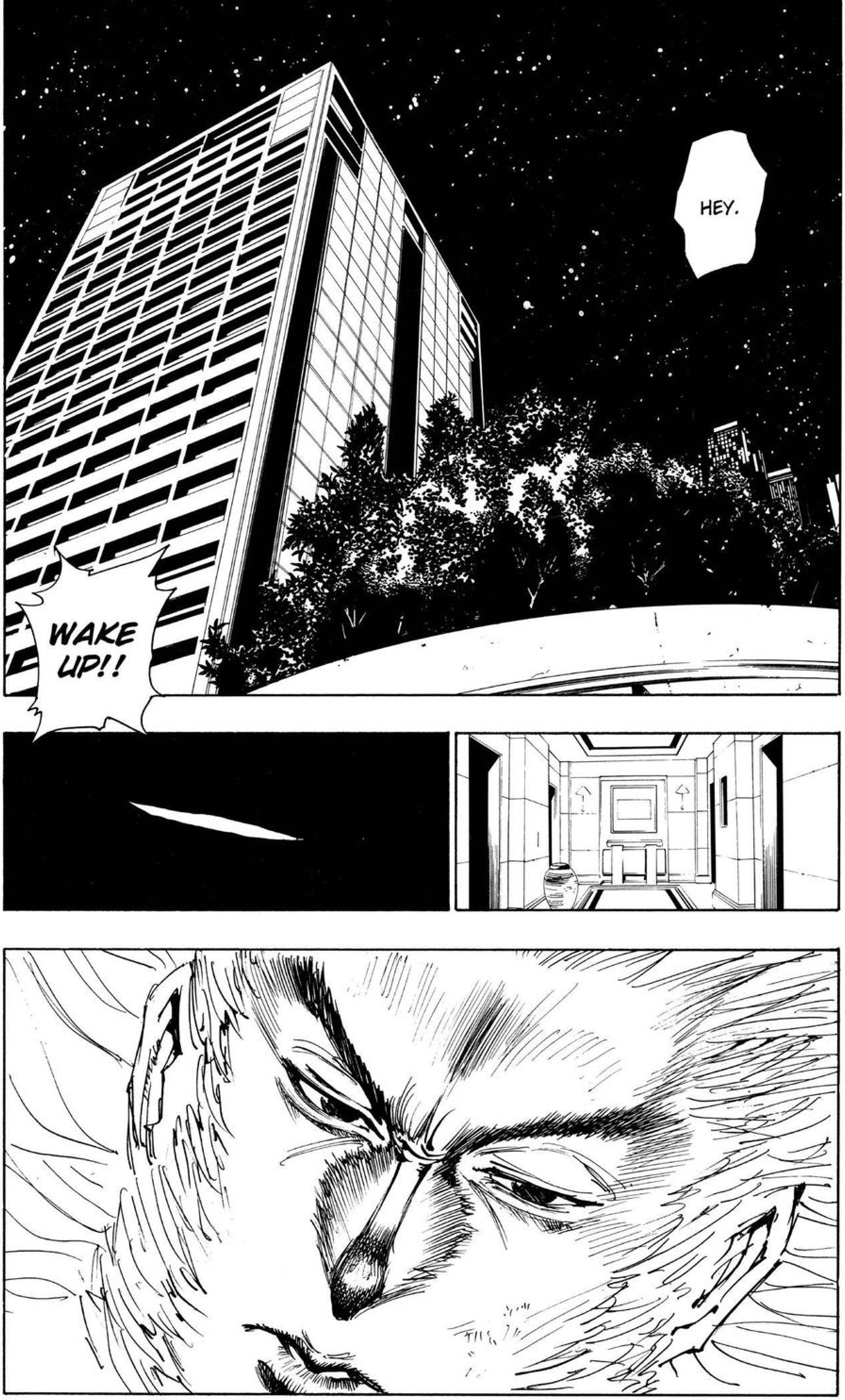


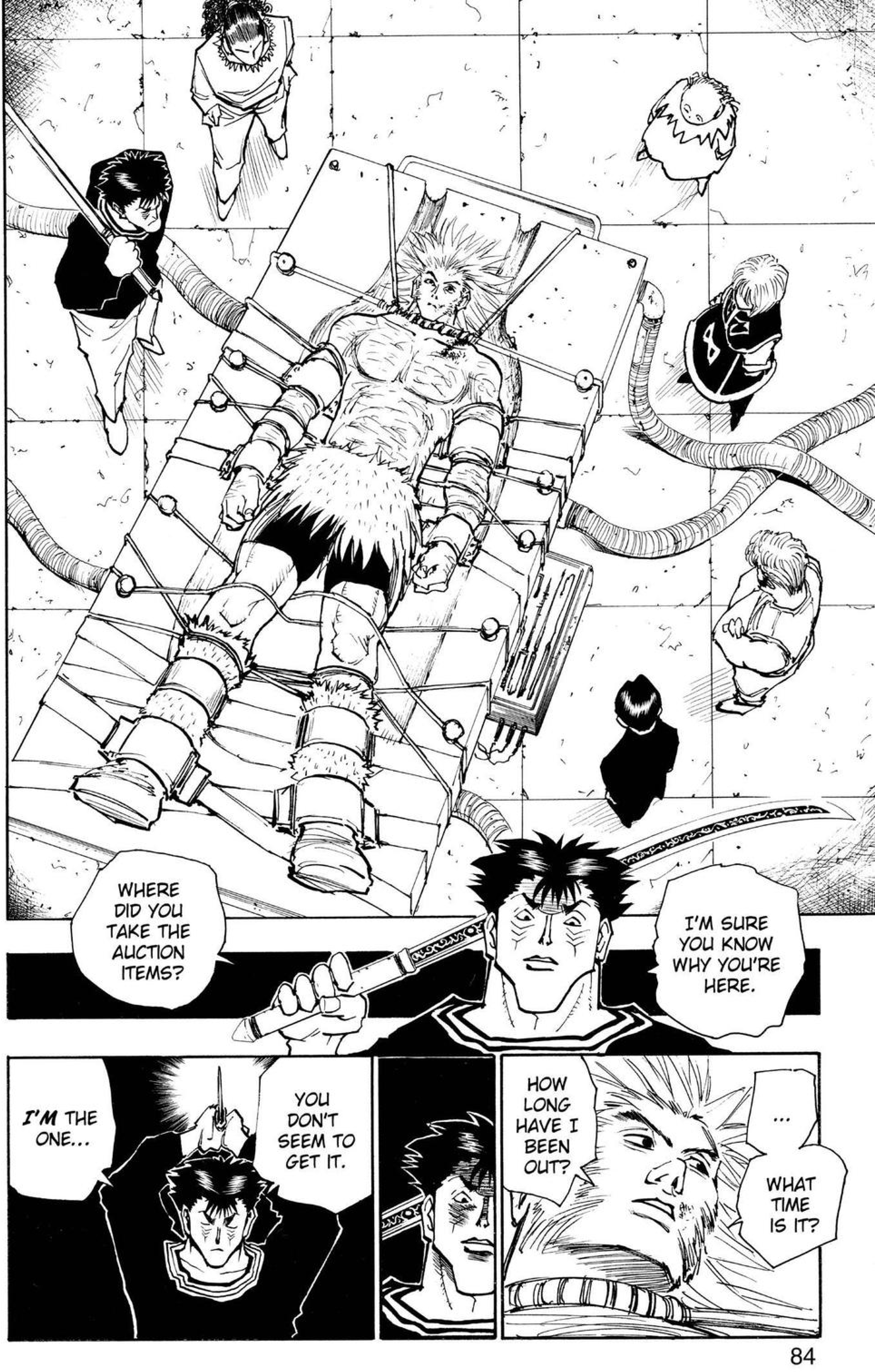
Chapter 78

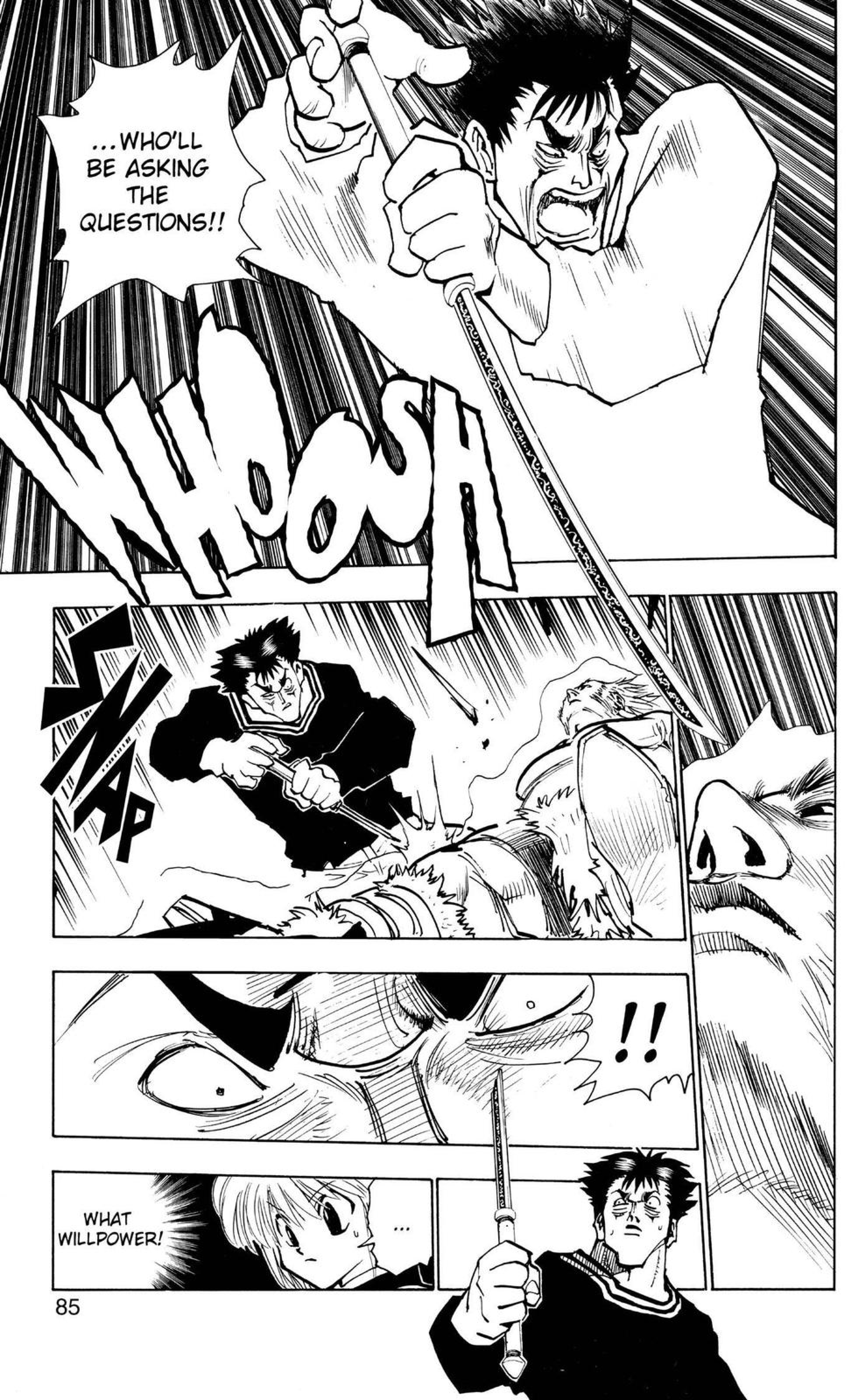
September 1st: Part 7

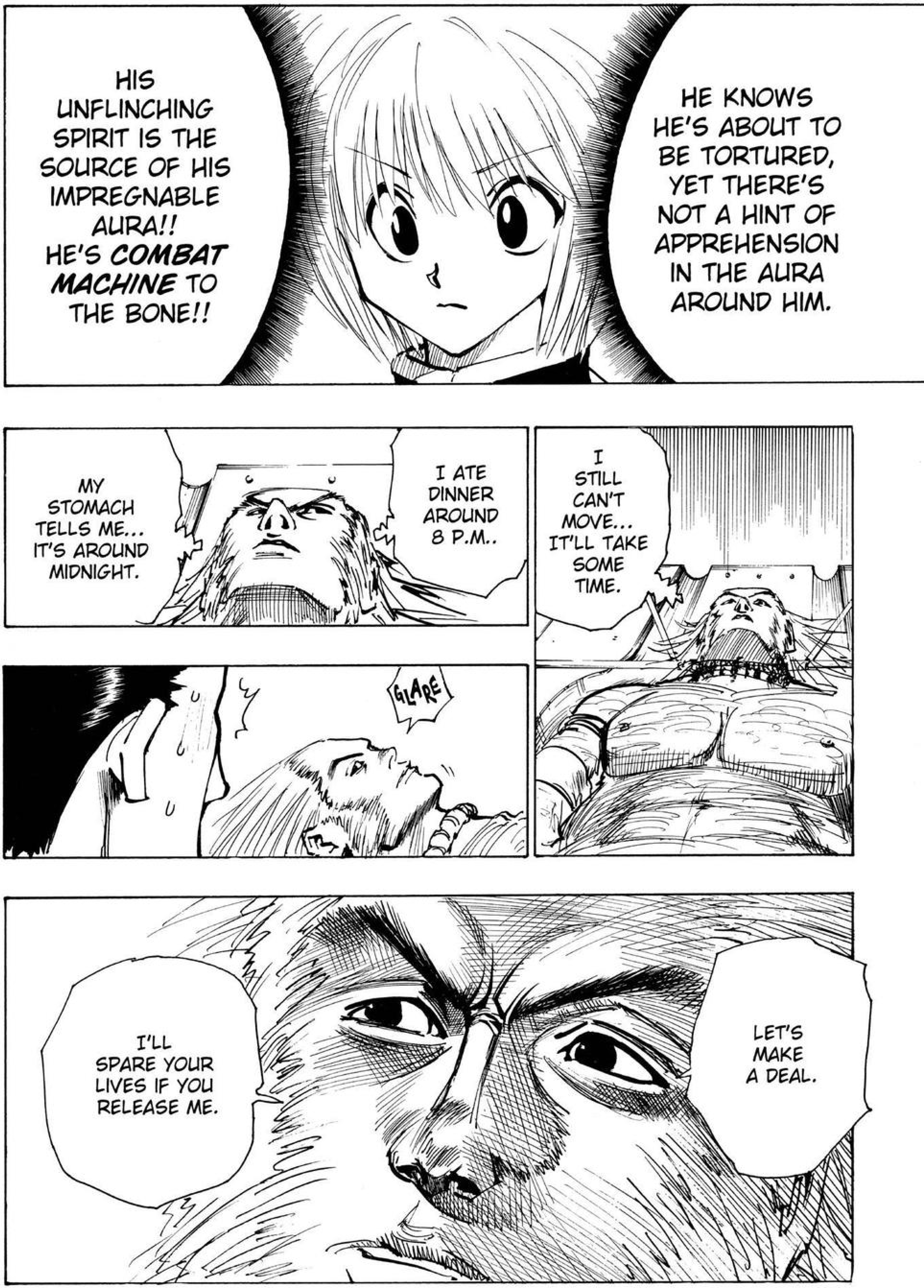
MACHI (TRANSMUTER)

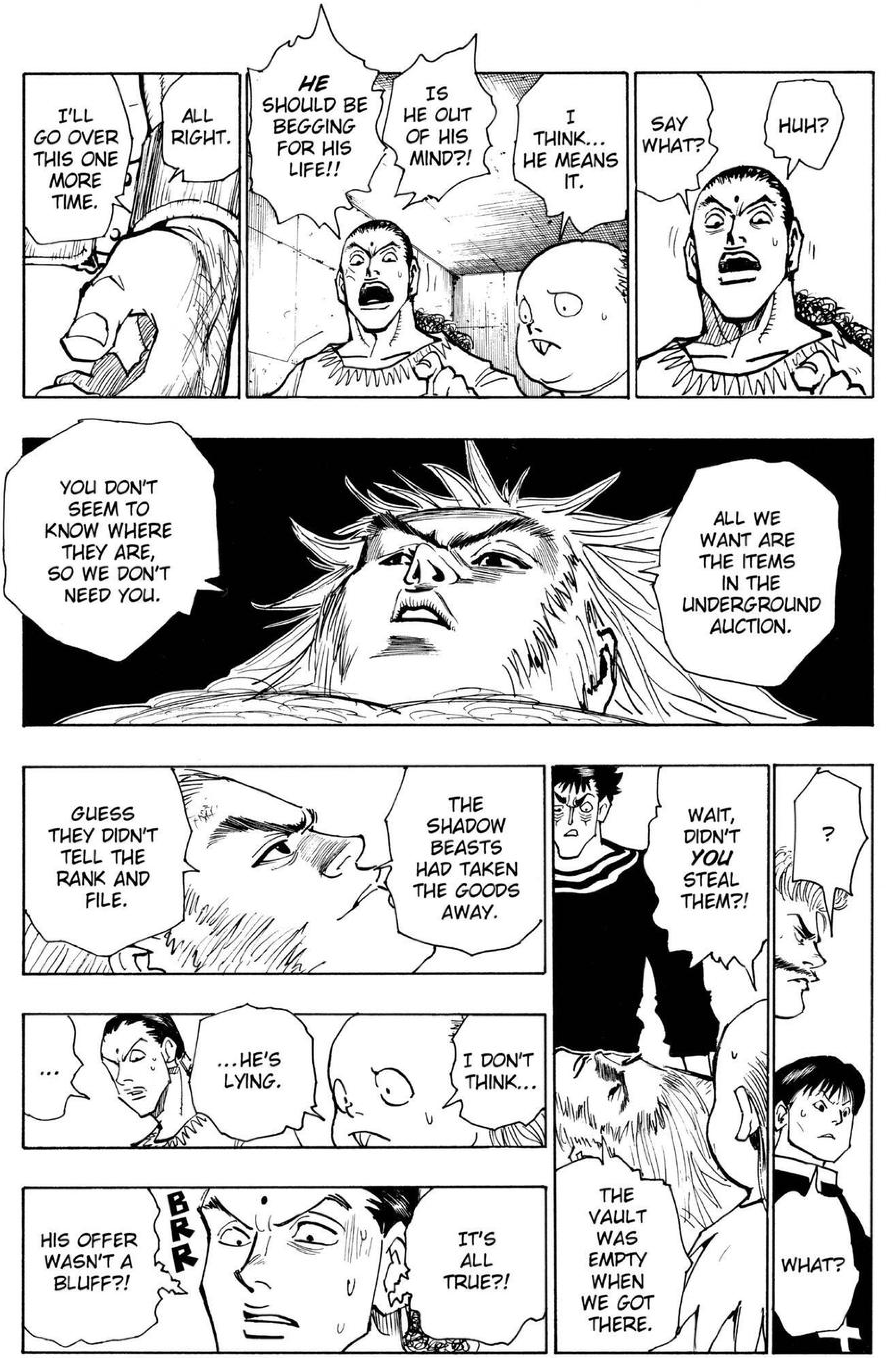
SHE SPINS HER AURA INTO THREADS. THE TENSILE STRENGTH OF A STRAND WILL BE INVERSELY PROPORTIONAL TO ITS LENGTH. A STRAND EQUIVALENT TO COTTON THREAD CAN BE SPUN LONG ENOUGH TO CIRCLE THE GLOBE. A STRAND CAN BE STRONG ENOUGH TO SUPPORT A ONE-TON WEIGHT IF IT'S SHORTER THAN ONE MILLIMETER. HOWEVER, THE STRENGTH OF A THREAD IS REDUCED AS SOON AS SHE LETS GO. THIS IS BECAUSE CONJURERS AND TRANSMUTERS ARE NOT GOOD AT EMISSION (DISCHARGING AURA).

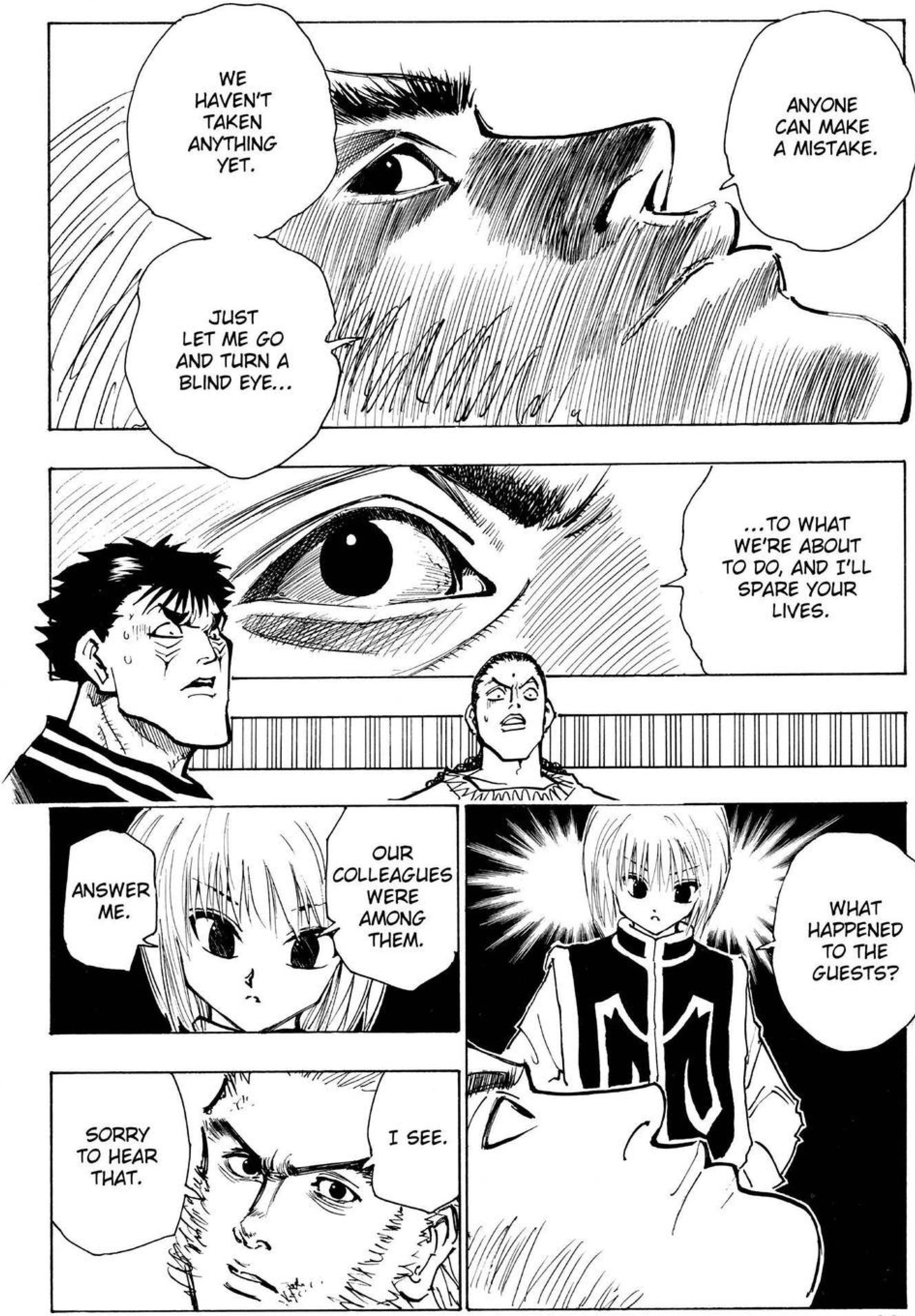

HEY.
WAKE UP!!

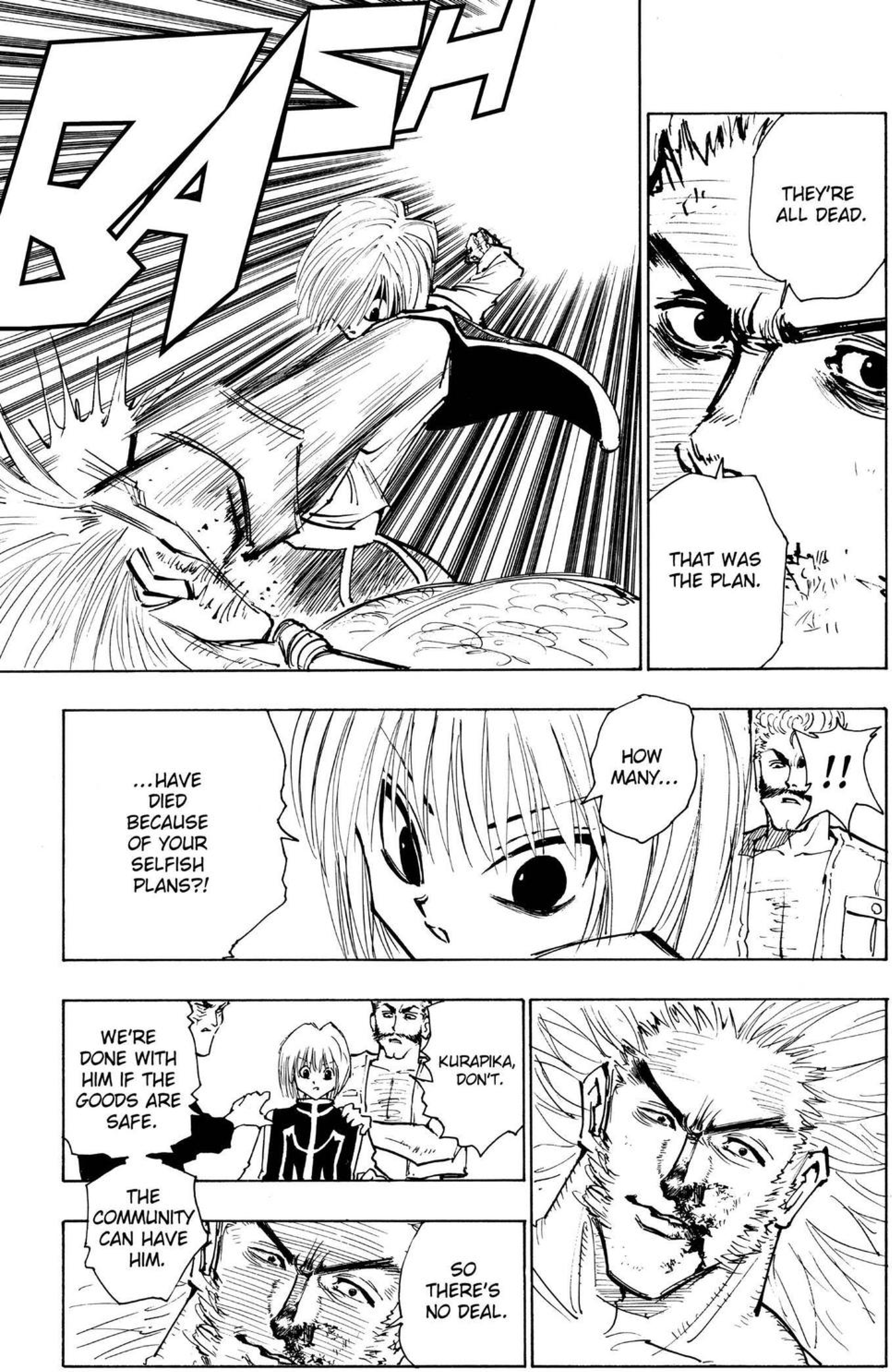

I'M SURE YOU KNOW WHY YOU'RE HERE.
WHERE DID YOU TAKE THE AUCTION ITEMS?
...
WHAT TIME IS IT?
HOW LONG HAVE I BEEN OUT?
YOU DON'T SEEM TO GET IT.
I'M THE ONE...

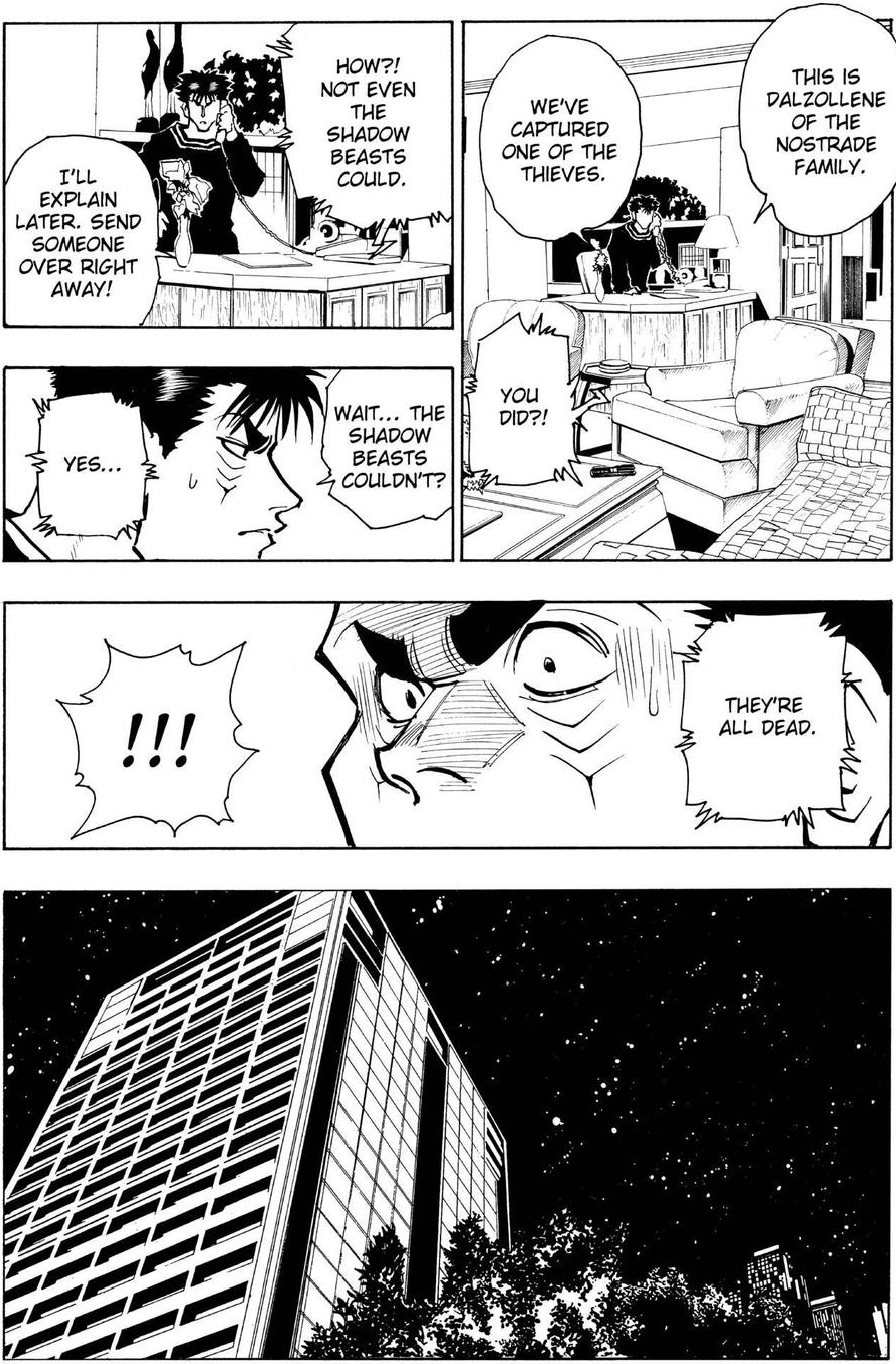

...WHO'LL BE ASKING THE QUESTIONS!!
WHOOSH
SNAP
!!
...
WHAT WILLPOWER!


HE KNOWS HE'S ABOUT TO BE TORTURED, YET THERE'S NOT A HINT OF APPREHENSION IN THE AURA AROUND HIM.
HIS UNFLINCHING SPIRIT IS THE SOURCE OF HIS IMPREGNABLE AURA!! HE'S ***COMBAT MACHINE*** TO THE BONE!!
I STILL CAN'T MOVE... IT'LL TAKE SOME TIME.
I ATE DINNER AROUND 8 P.M..
MY STOMACH TELLS ME... IT'S AROUND MIDNIGHT.
GLARE
LET'S MAKE A DEAL.
I'LL SPARE YOUR LIVES IF YOU RELEASE ME.

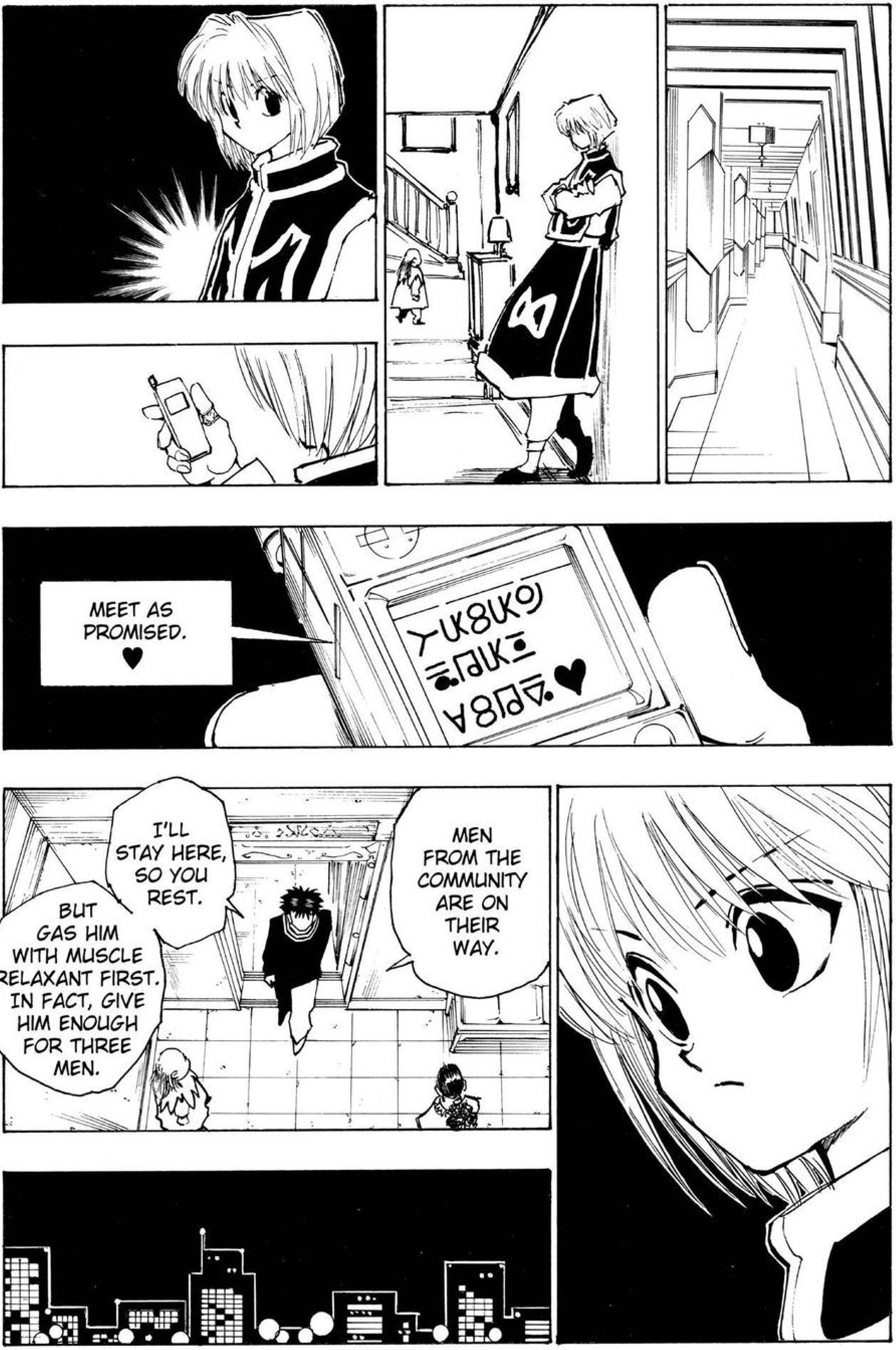

HUH?
SAY WHAT?
I THINK... HE MEANS IT.
IS HE OUT OF HIS MIND?!
HE SHOULD BE BEGGING FOR HIS LIFE!!
ALL RIGHT.
I'LL GO OVER THIS ONE MORE TIME.
ALL WE WANT ARE THE ITEMS IN THE UNDERGROUND AUCTION.
YOU DON'T SEEM TO KNOW WHERE THEY ARE, SO WE DON'T NEED YOU.
?
WHAT?
WAIT, DIDN'T **YOU** STEAL THEM?!
THE VAULT WAS EMPTY WHEN WE GOT THERE.
THE SHADOW BEASTS HAD TAKEN THE GOODS AWAY.
GUESS THEY DIDN'T TELL THE RANK AND FILE.
I DON'T THINK...
...HE'S LYING.
...
IT'S ALL TRUE?!
BRR
HIS OFFER WASN'T A BLUFF?!

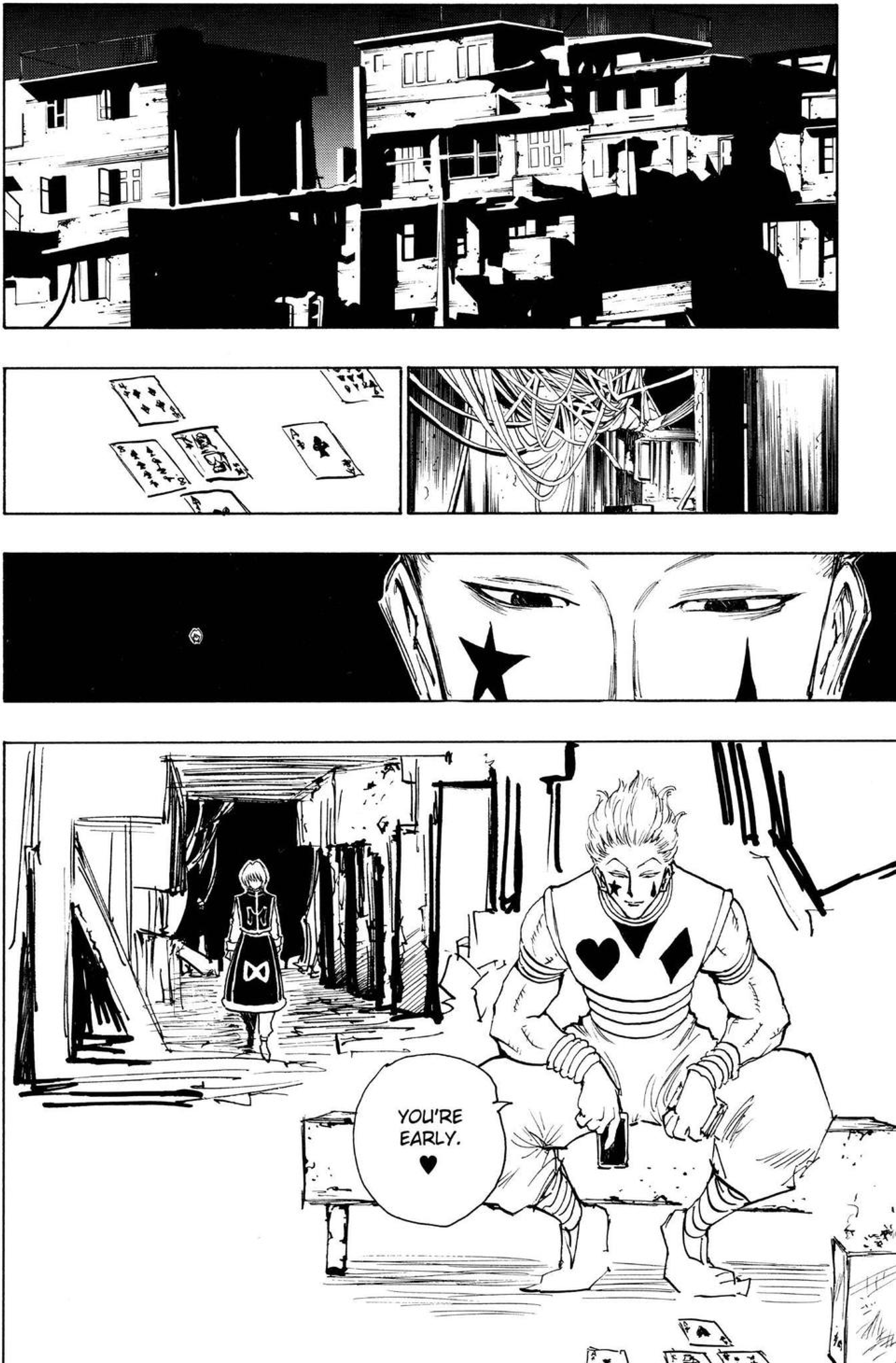

ANYONE CAN MAKE A MISTAKE.
WE HAVEN'T TAKEN ANYTHING YET.
JUST LET ME GO AND TURN A BLIND EYE...
...TO WHAT WE'RE ABOUT TO DO, AND I'LL SPARE YOUR LIVES.
WHAT HAPPENED TO THE GUESTS?
OUR COLLEAGUES WERE AMONG THEM.
ANSWER ME.
I SEE.
SORRY TO HEAR THAT.


BASH
THEY'RE ALL DEAD.
THAT WAS THE PLAN.
HOW MANY...
!!
...HAVE DIED BECAUSE OF YOUR SELFISH PLANS?!
KURAPIKA, DON'T.
WE'RE DONE WITH HIM IF THE GOODS ARE SAFE.
THE COMMUNITY CAN HAVE HIM.
SO THERE'S NO DEAL.

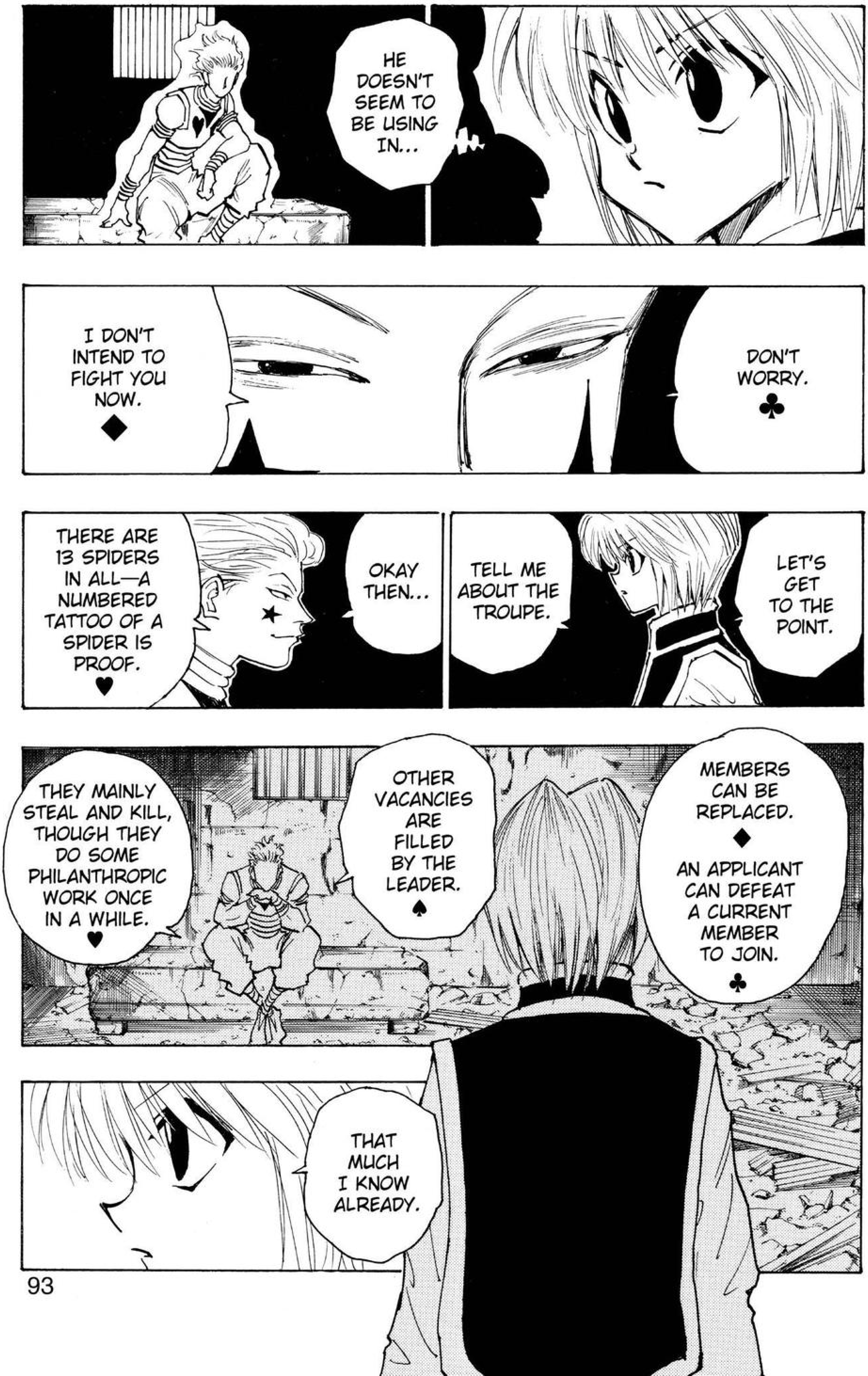

THIS IS DALZOLLENE OF THE NOSTRADE FAMILY.
WE'VE CAPTURED ONE OF THE THIEVES.
YOU DID?!
HOW?! NOT EVEN THE SHADOW BEASTS COULD.
I'LL EXPLAIN LATER. SEND SOMEONE OVER RIGHT AWAY!
WAIT... THE SHADOW BEASTS COULDN'T?
YES...
THEY'RE ALL DEAD.
!!!

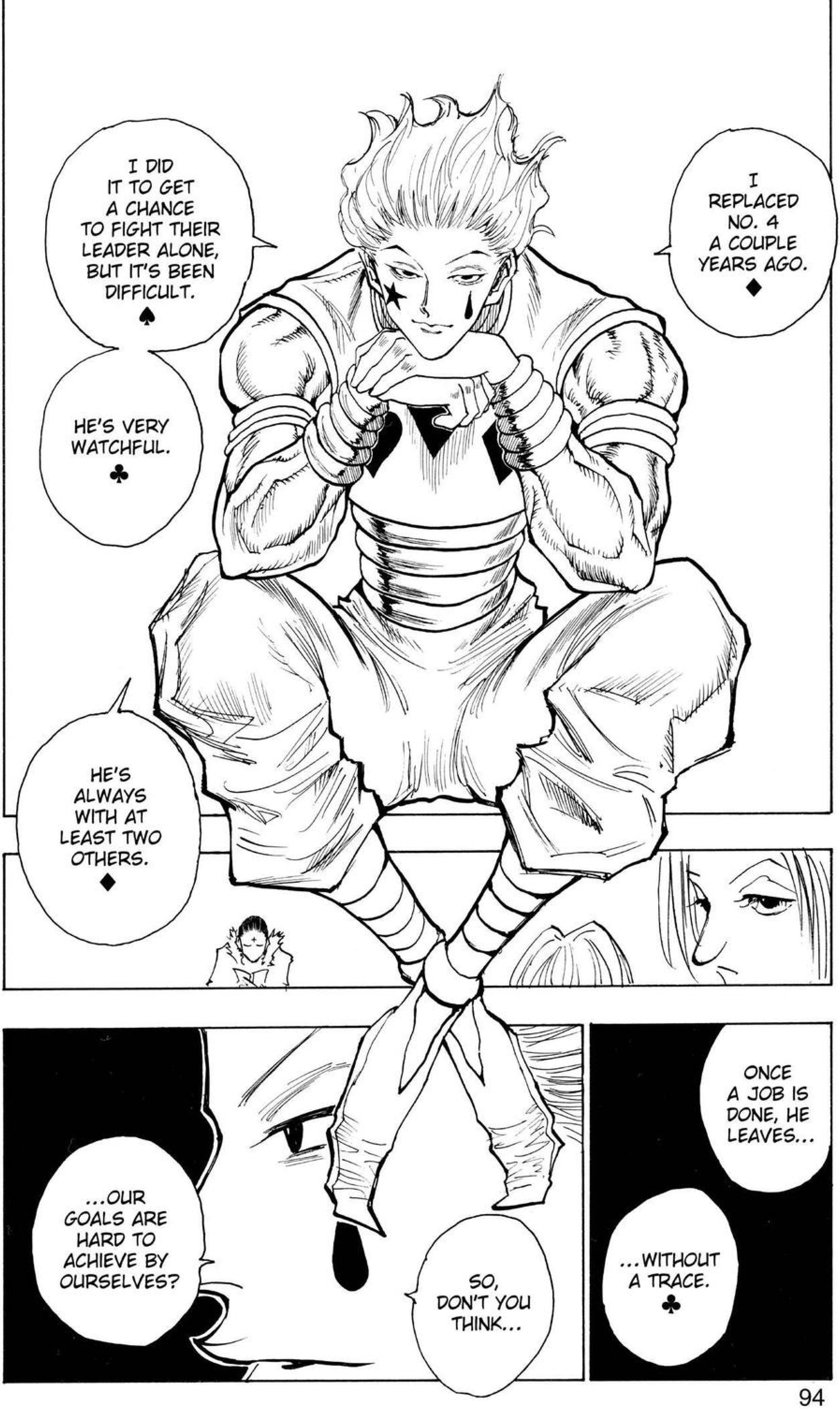
READ THIS WAY

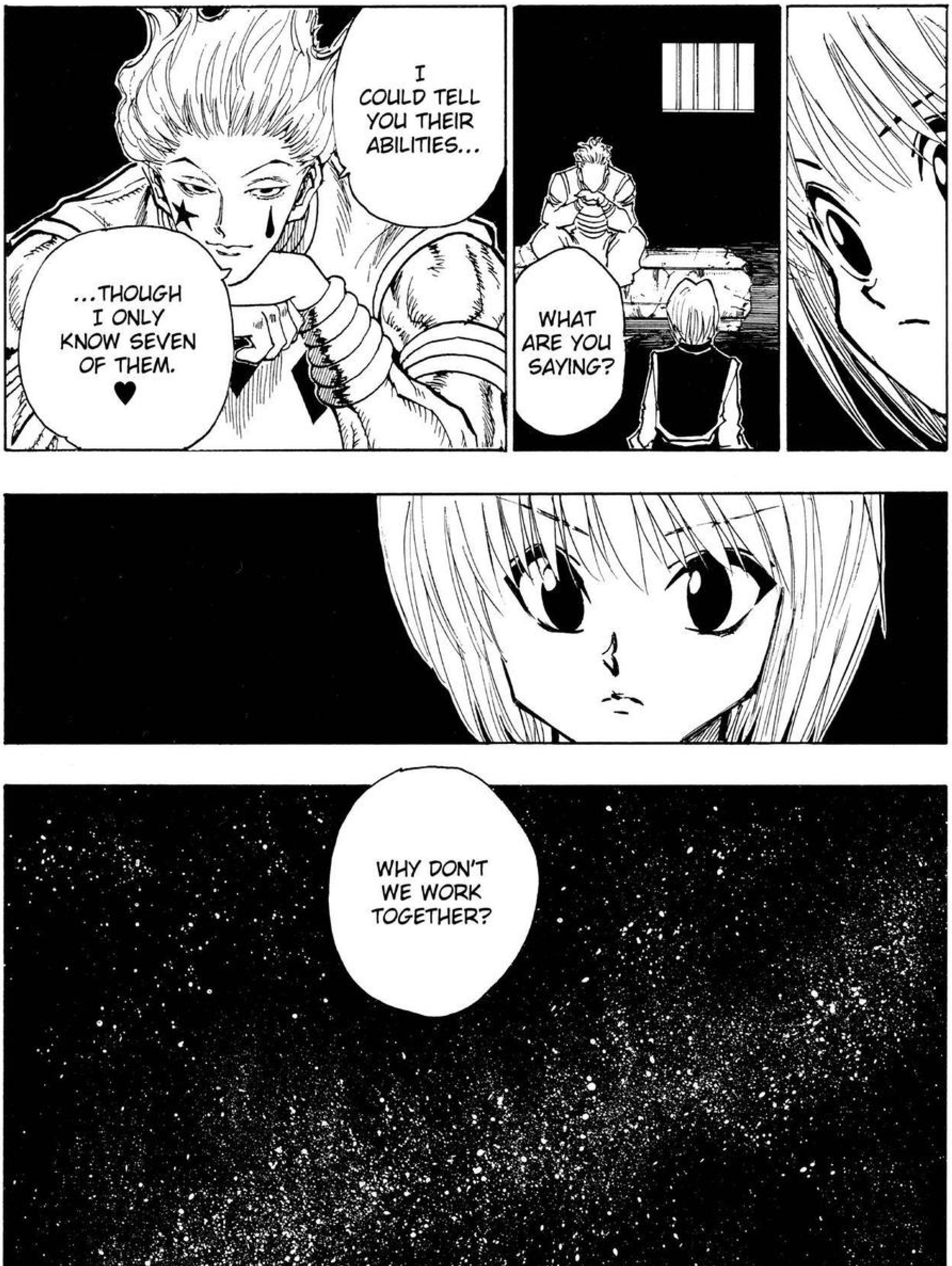

MEET AS PROMISED. ♥
MEN FROM THE COMMUNITY ARE ON THEIR WAY.
I'LL STAY HERE, SO YOU REST.
BUT GAS HIM WITH MUSCLE RELAXANT FIRST. IN FACT, GIVE HIM ENOUGH FOR THREE MEN.

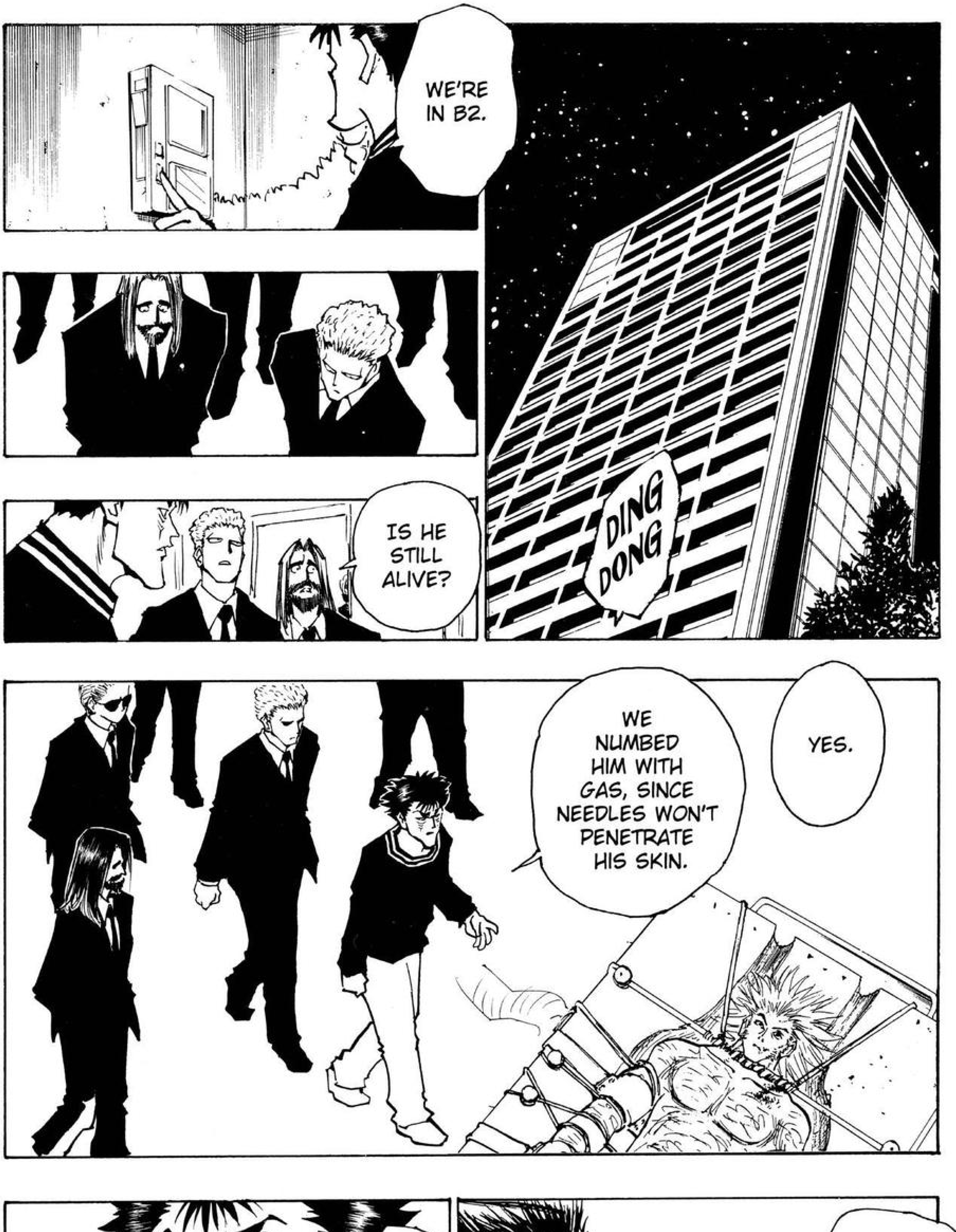

YOU'RE EARLY. ♥

READ THIS WAY

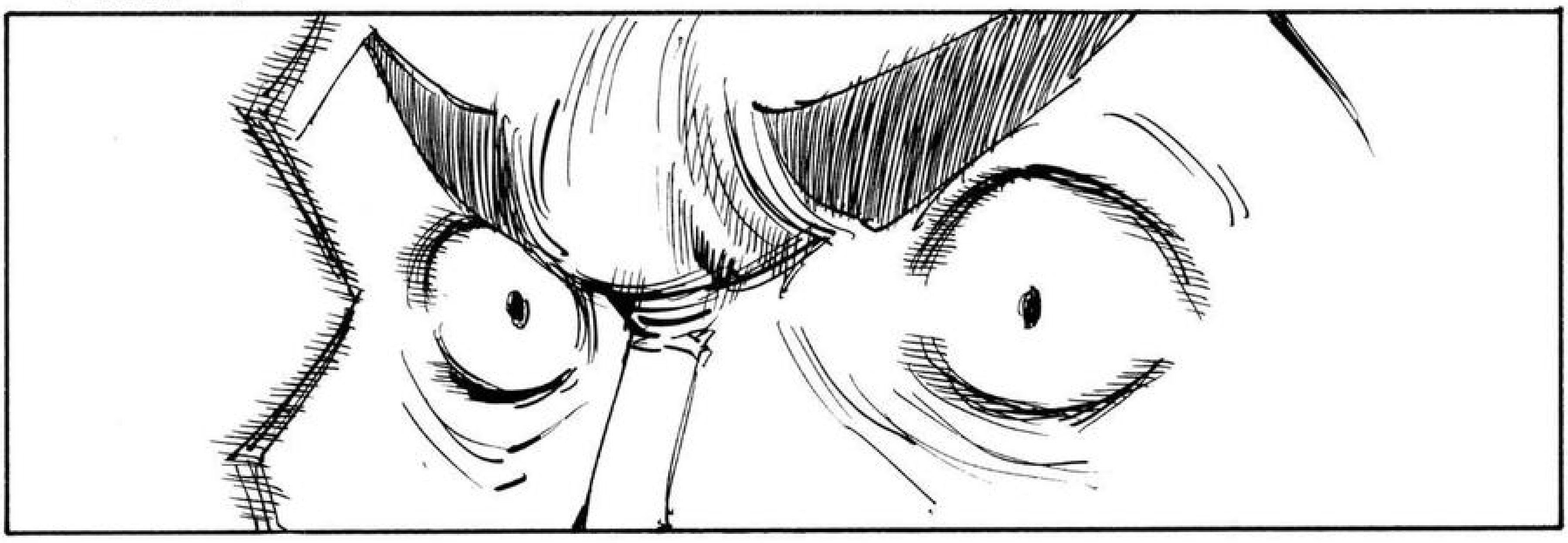

HE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE USING IN...
DON'T WORRY. ♣
I DON'T INTEND TO FIGHT YOU NOW. ◆
LET'S GET TO THE POINT.
TELL ME ABOUT THE TROUPE.
OKAY THEN...
THERE ARE 13 SPIDERS IN ALL—A NUMBERED TATTOO OF A SPIDER IS PROOF. ♥
MEMBERS CAN BE REPLACED. ◆ AN APPLICANT CAN DEFEAT A CURRENT MEMBER TO JOIN. ♣
OTHER VACANCIES ARE FILLED BY THE LEADER. ♠
THEY MAINLY STEAL AND KILL, THOUGH THEY DO SOME PHILANTHROPIC WORK ONCE IN A WHILE. ♥
THAT MUCH I KNOW ALREADY.

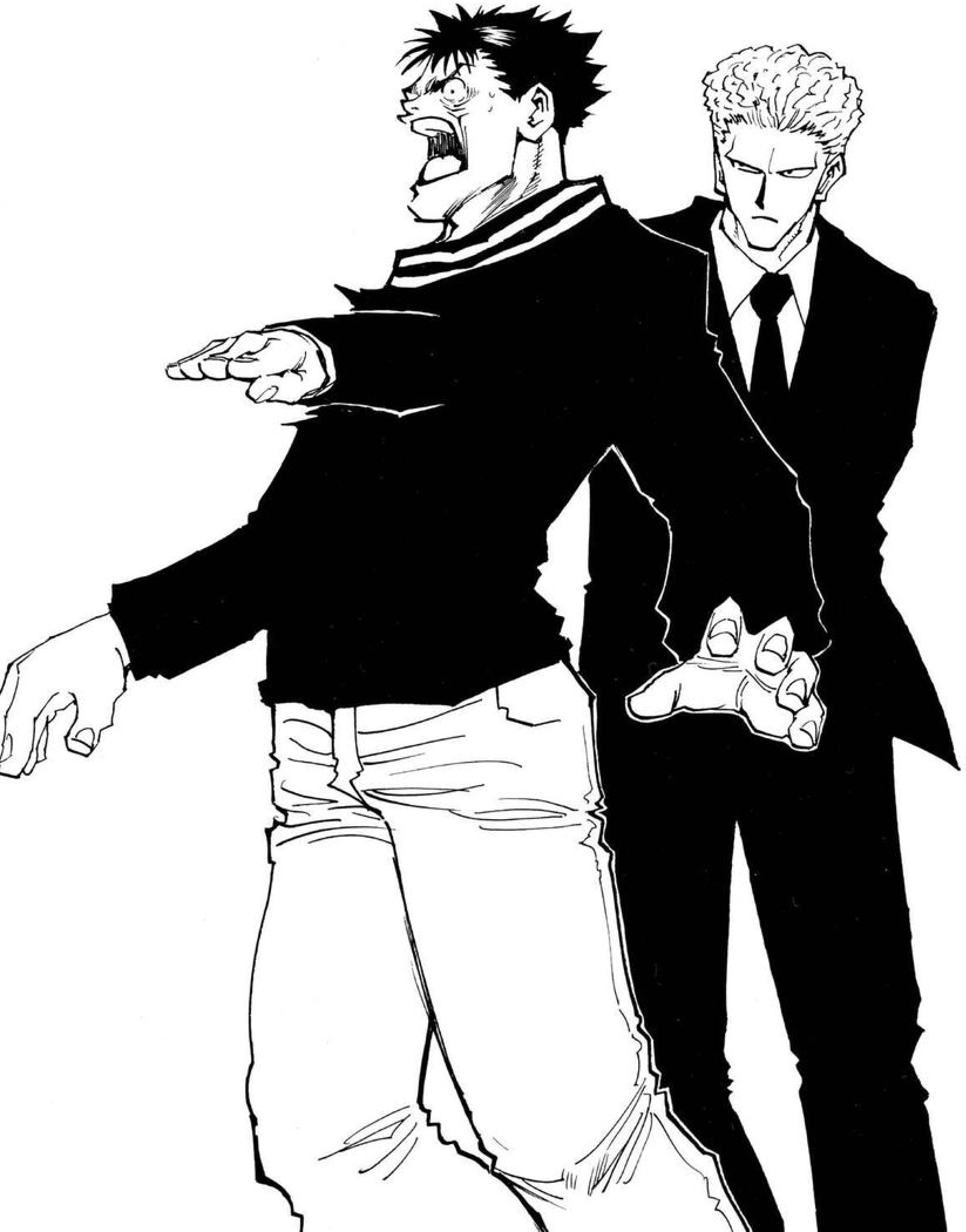

I REPLACED NO. 4 A COUPLE YEARS AGO. ◆
I DID IT TO GET A CHANCE TO FIGHT THEIR LEADER ALONE, BUT IT'S BEEN DIFFICULT. ♠
HE'S VERY WATCHFUL. ♣
HE'S ALWAYS WITH AT LEAST TWO OTHERS. ◆
ONCE A JOB IS DONE, HE LEAVES...
...WITHOUT A TRACE. ♣
SO, DON'T YOU THINK...
...OUR GOALS ARE HARD TO ACHIEVE BY OURSELVES?

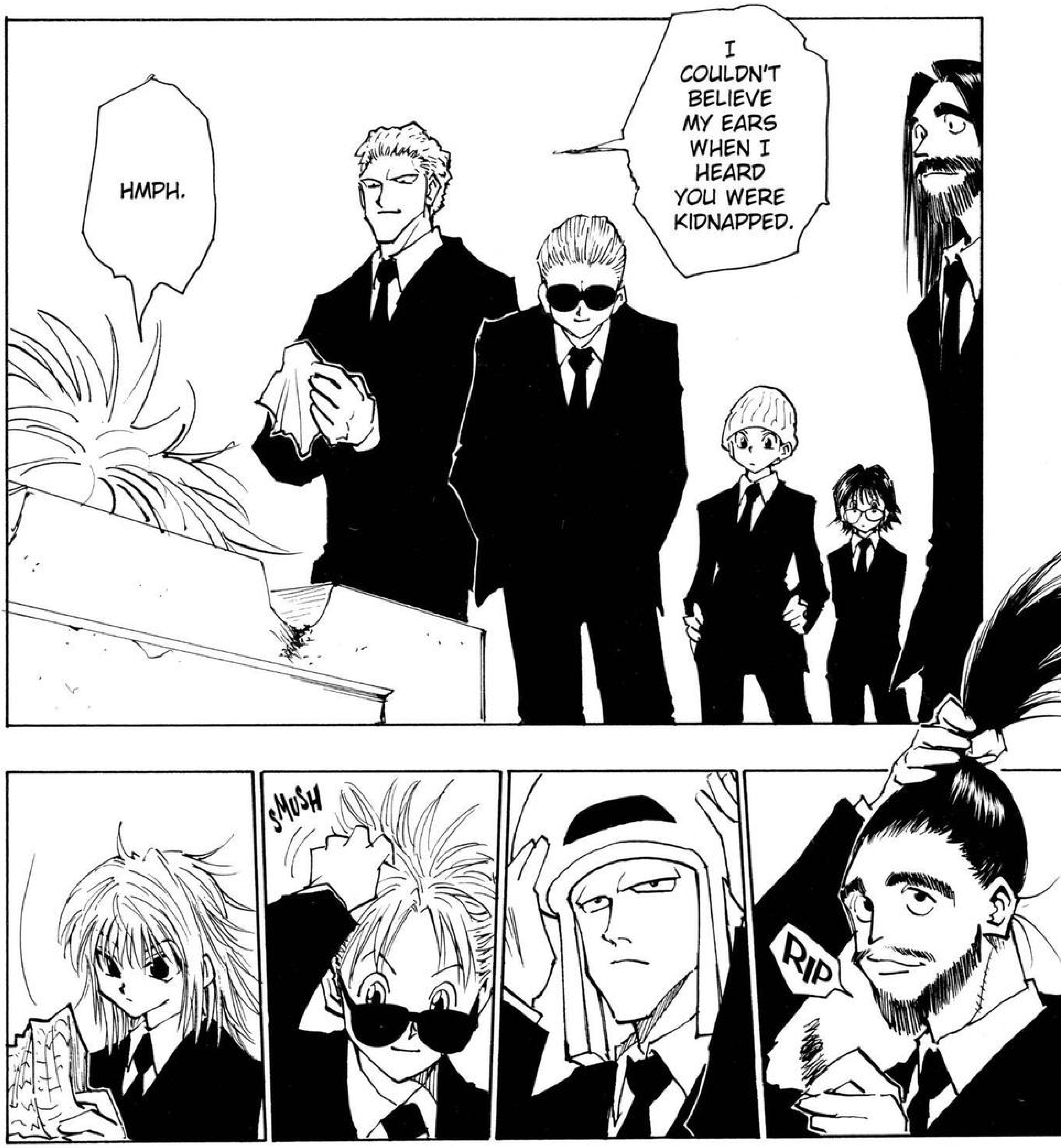

WHAT ARE YOU SAYING?
I COULD TELL YOU THEIR ABILITIES...
...THOUGH I ONLY KNOW SEVEN OF THEM. ♥
WHY DON'T WE WORK TOGETHER?

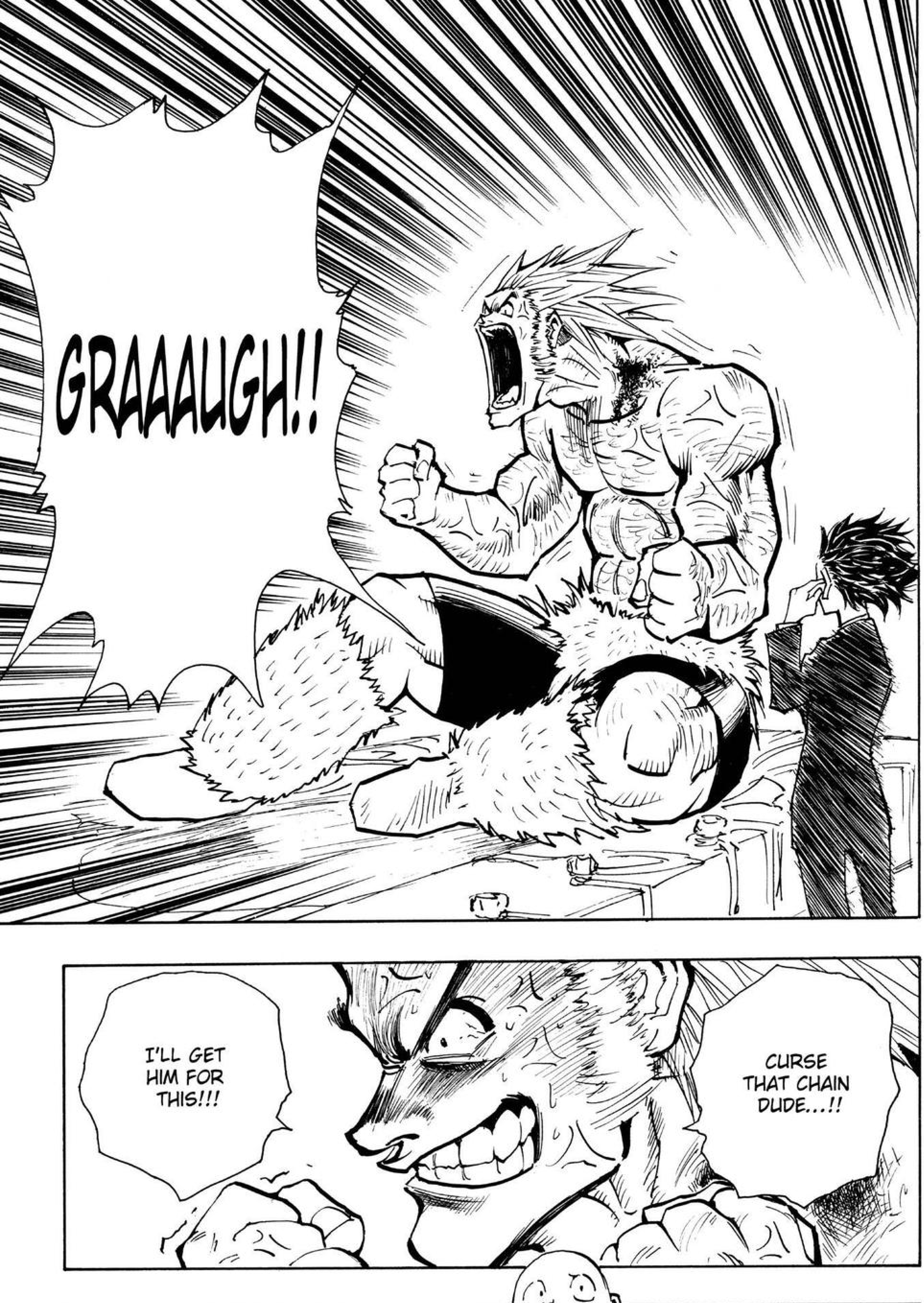

DING DONG
WE'RE IN B2.
IS HE STILL ALIVE?
YES.
WE NUMBED HIM WITH GAS, SINCE NEEDLES WON'T PENETRATE HIS SKIN.
"THE TAILOR MAKES THE MAN"...
HUH?

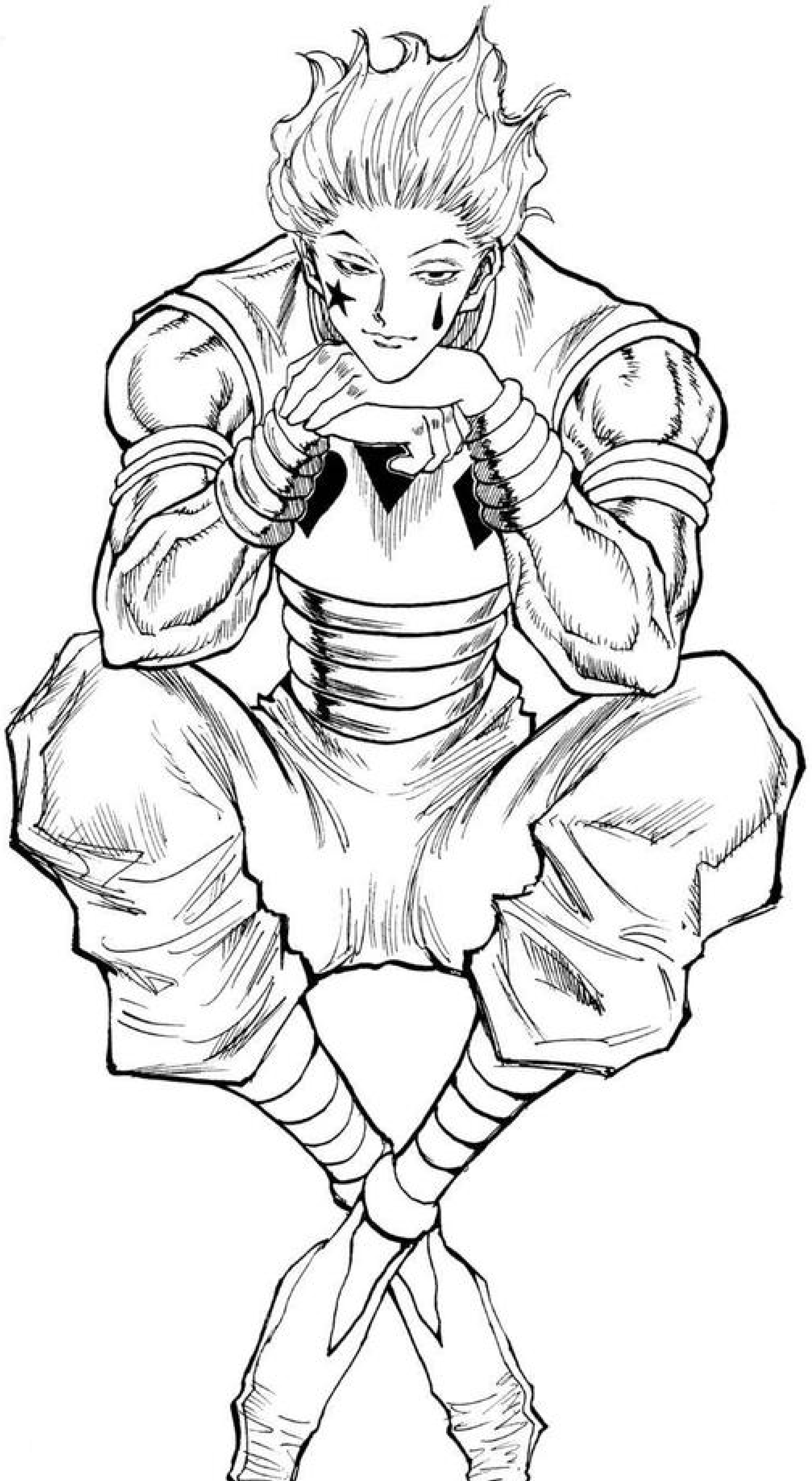
READ THIS WAY

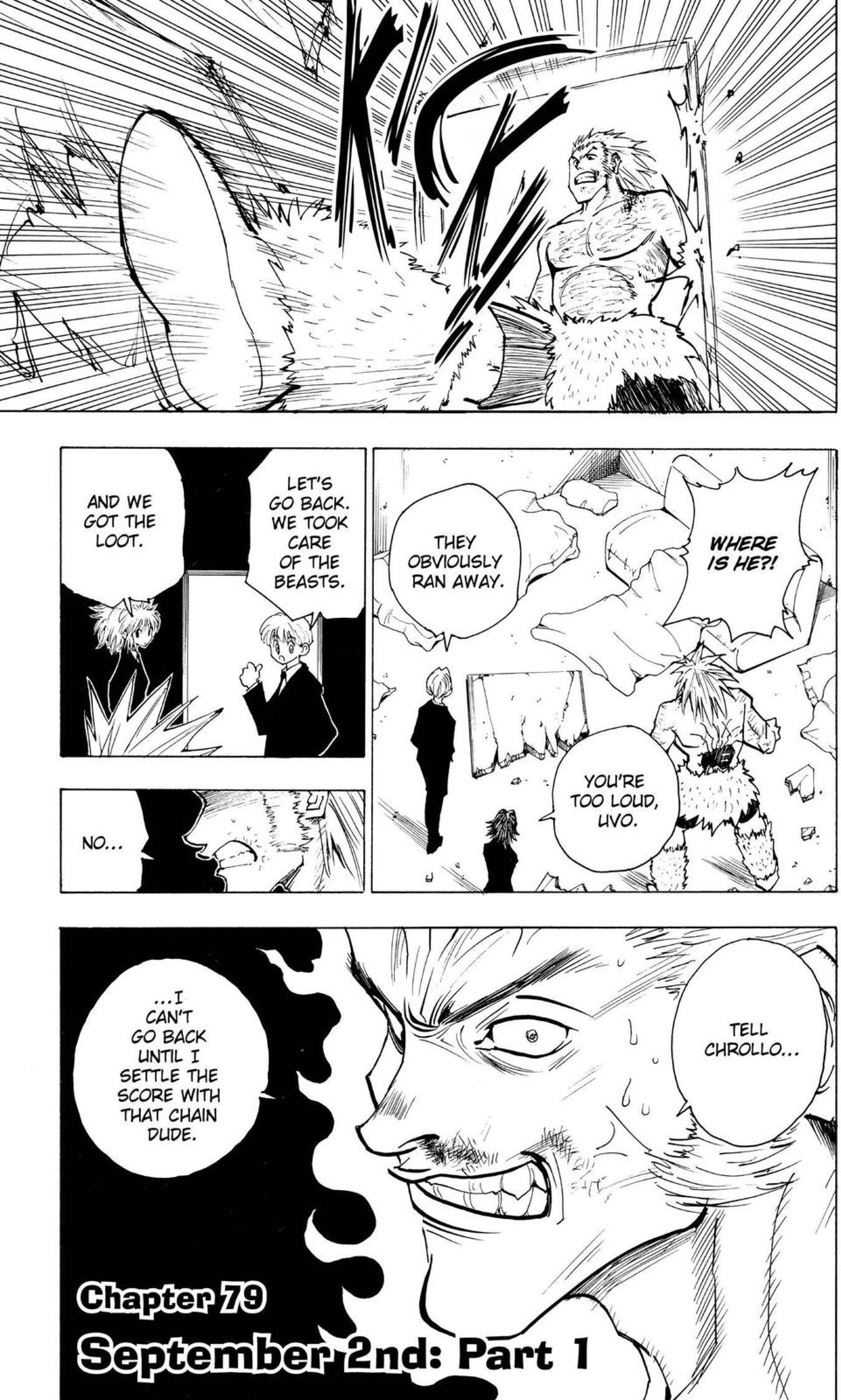





I COULDN'T BELIEVE MY EARS WHEN I HEARD YOU WERE KIDNAPPED.
HMPH.
RIP
SMUSH
SUCK OUT THE POISON PARALYZING UVO!
HWHOOM
PHEW.

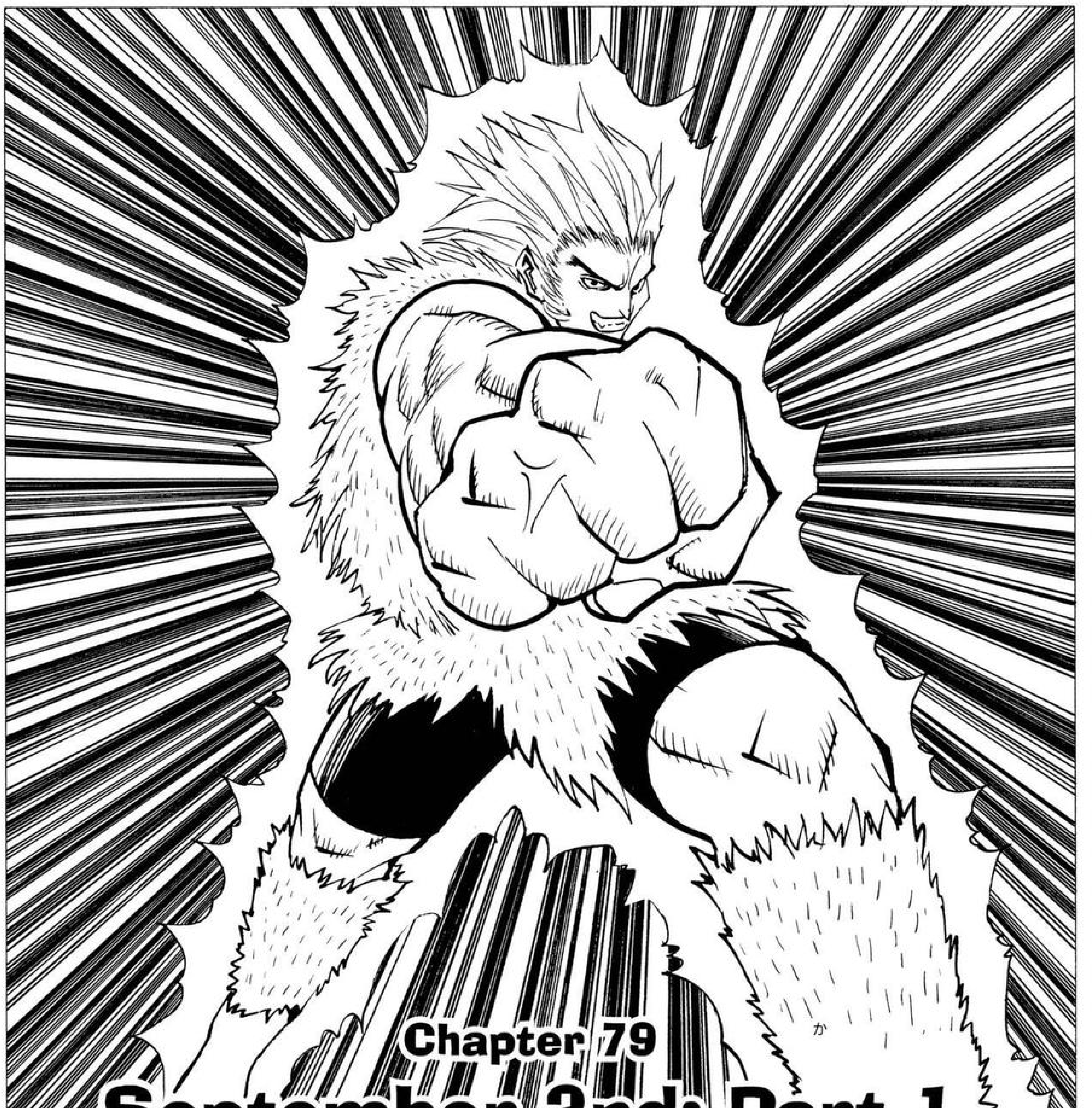

GRAAAUGH!!
CURSE THAT CHAIN DUDE...!!
I'LL GET HIM FOR THIS!!!
!
WMP!
Z Z Z




KICK
WHERE IS HE?!
THEY OBVIOUSLY RAN AWAY.
YOU'RE TOO LOUD, UVO.
LET'S GO BACK. WE TOOK CARE OF THE BEASTS.
AND WE GOT THE LOOT.
NO...
TELL CHROLLO...
...I CAN'T GO BACK UNTIL I SETTLE THE SCORE WITH THAT CHAIN DUDE.

Chapter 79

September 2nd: Part 1

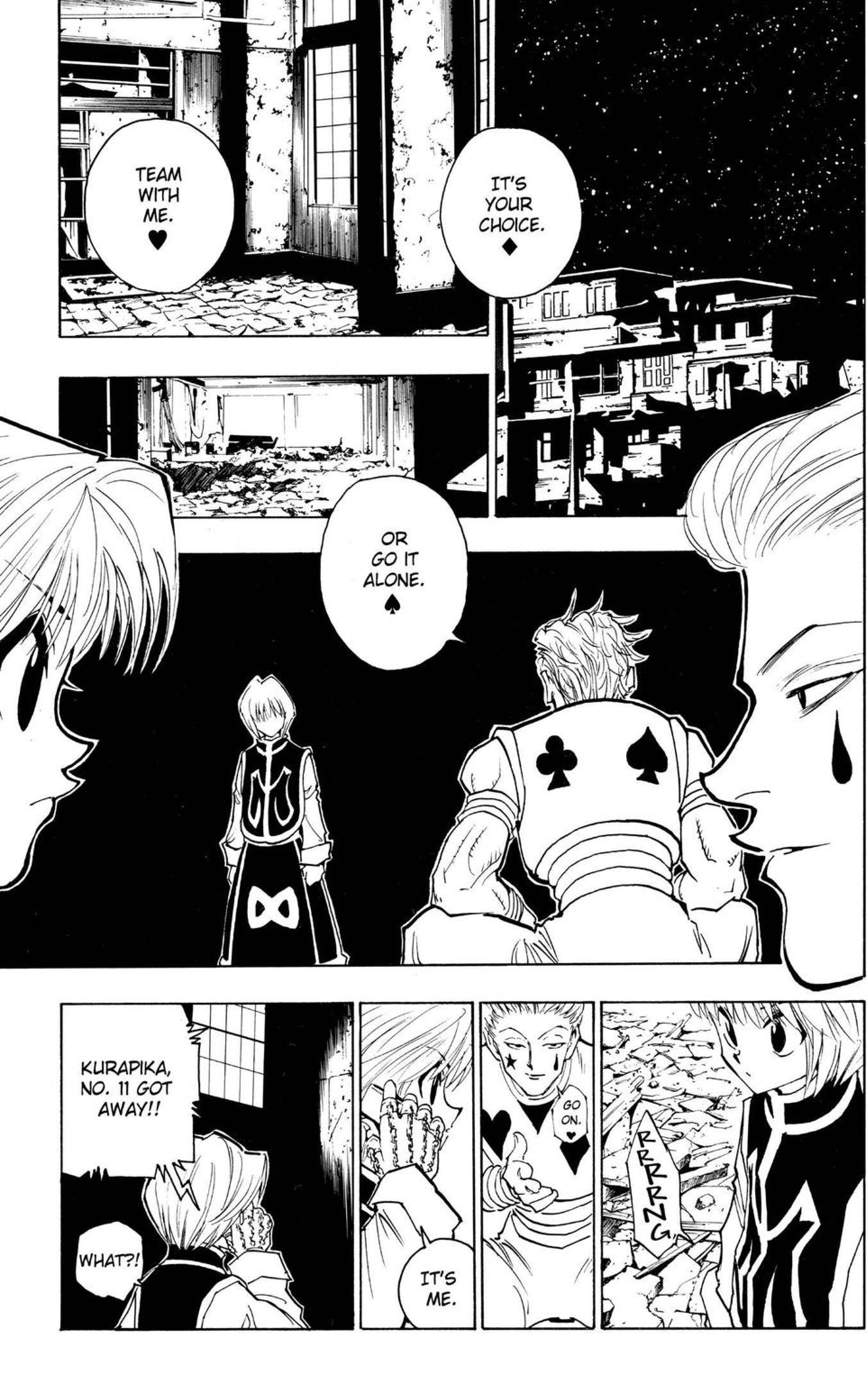


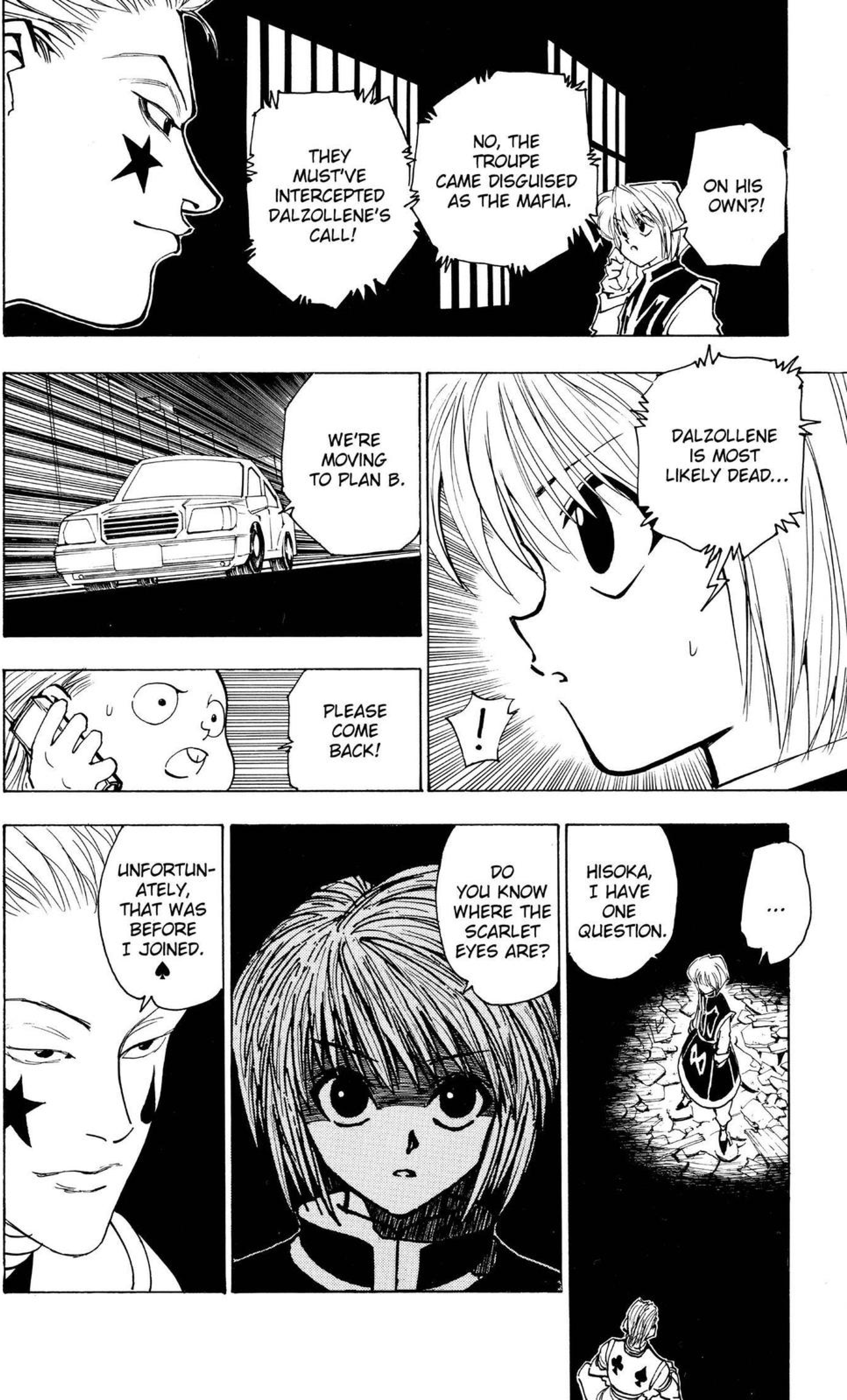
Chapter 79

September 2nd: Part 1

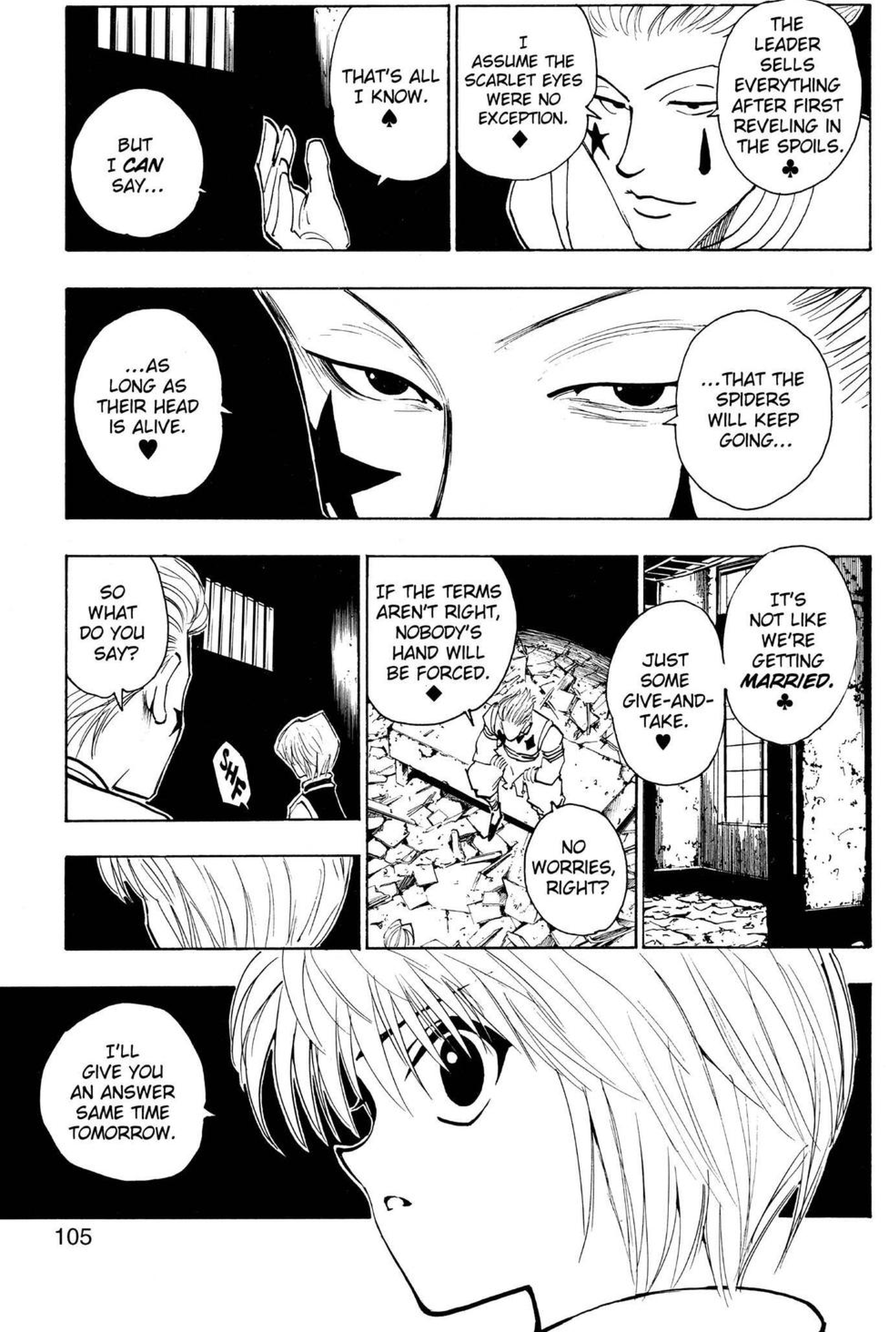
UVOGIN (ENHANCER)

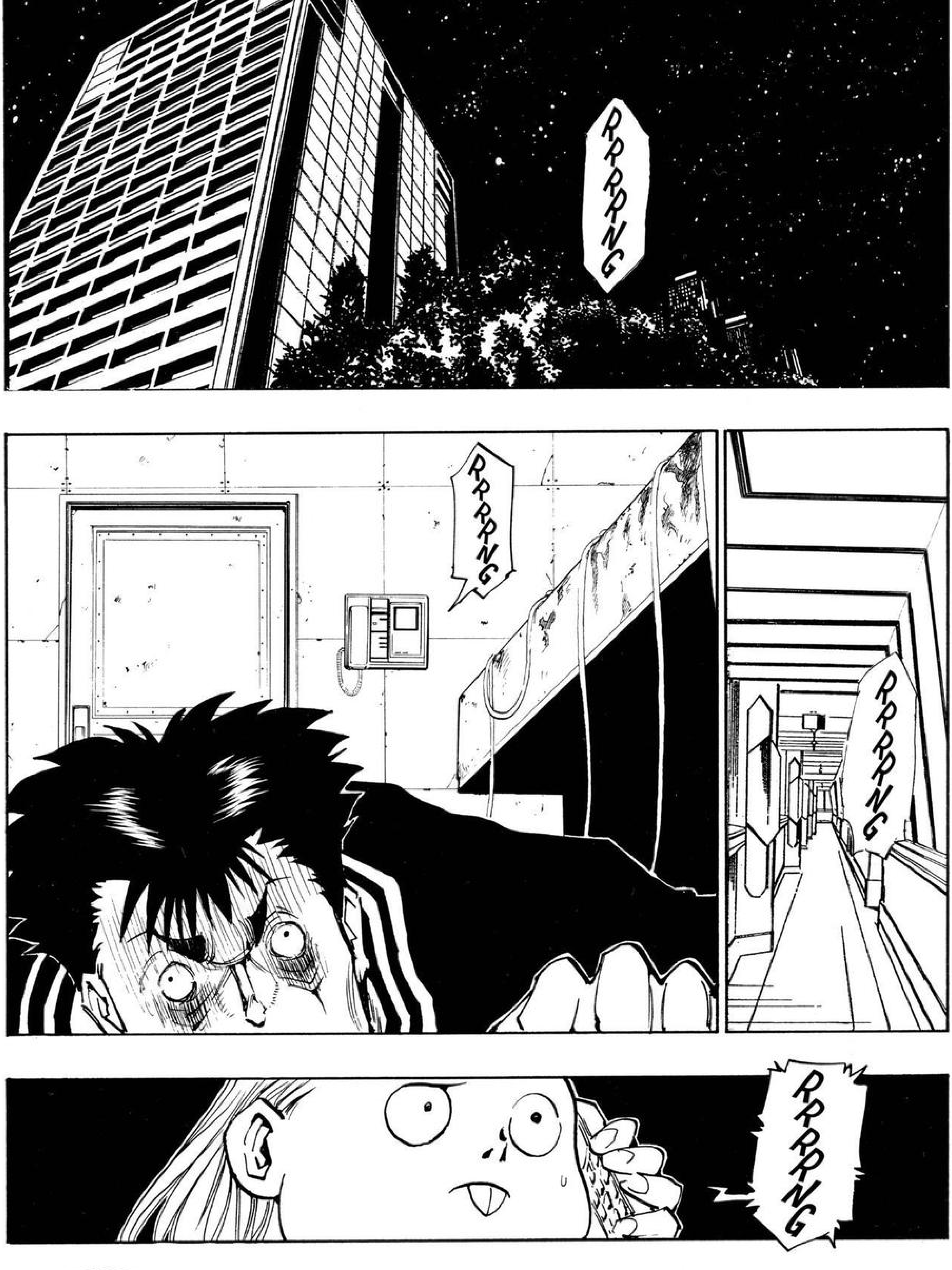
HIS ONLY INTERESTS ARE STRENGTH TRAINING AND WINNING STREET FIGHTS. HE FOCUSES HIS ENTIRE AURA INTO HIS FIST TO PRODUCE HIS BIG BANG IMPACT, WHICH HAS THE DESTRUCTIVE FORCE OF A SMALL MISSILE. HIS GOAL IS TO HONE HIS PUNCH UNTIL IT CREATES A BLAST EQUIVALENT TO A NUCLEAR BOMB.

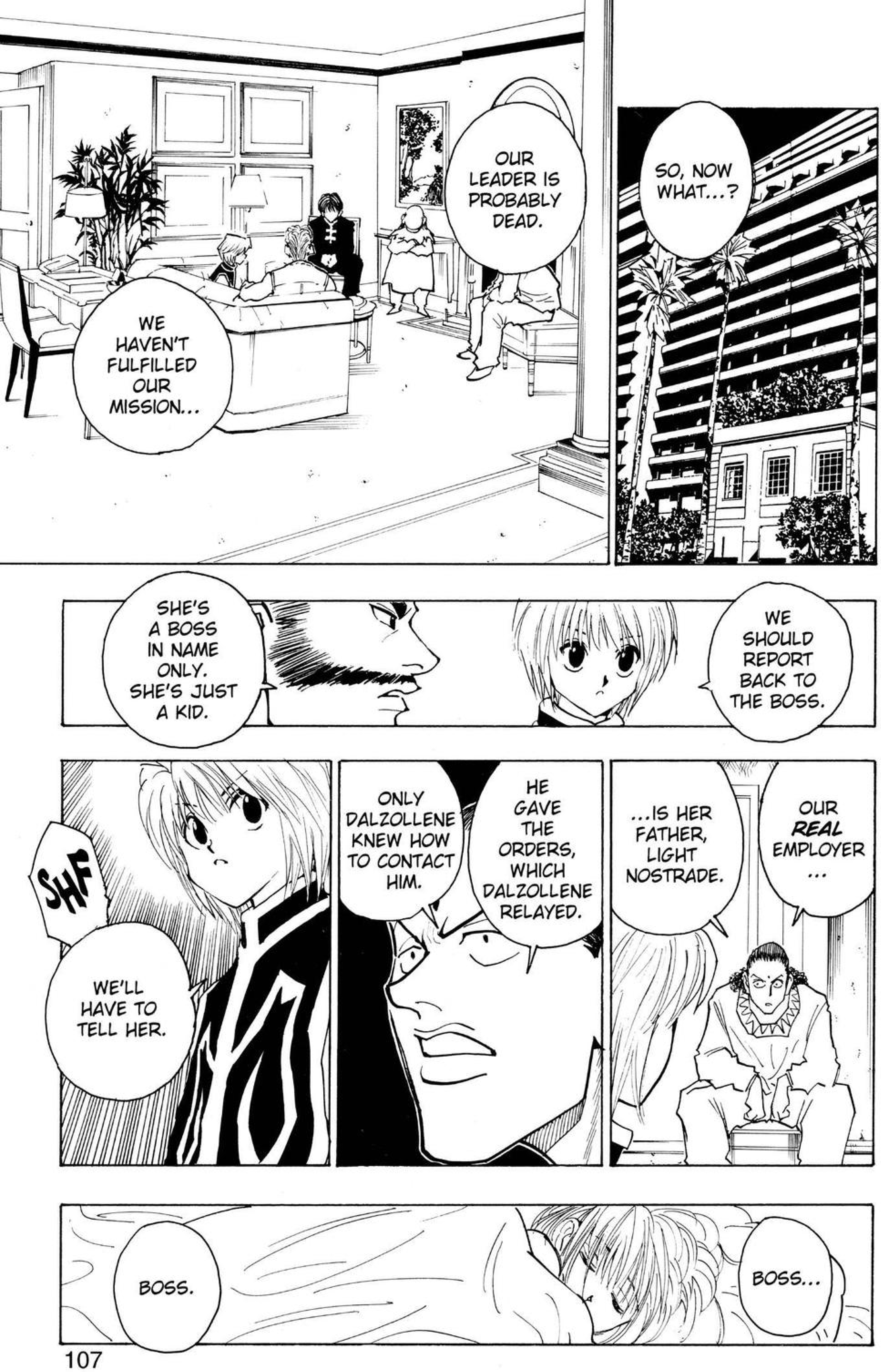

IT'S YOUR CHOICE. ◆
TEAM WITH ME. ♥
OR GO IT ALONE. ♠
RRRRNG
GO ON. ♥
IT'S ME.
KURAPIKA, NO. 11 GOT AWAY!!
WHAT?!

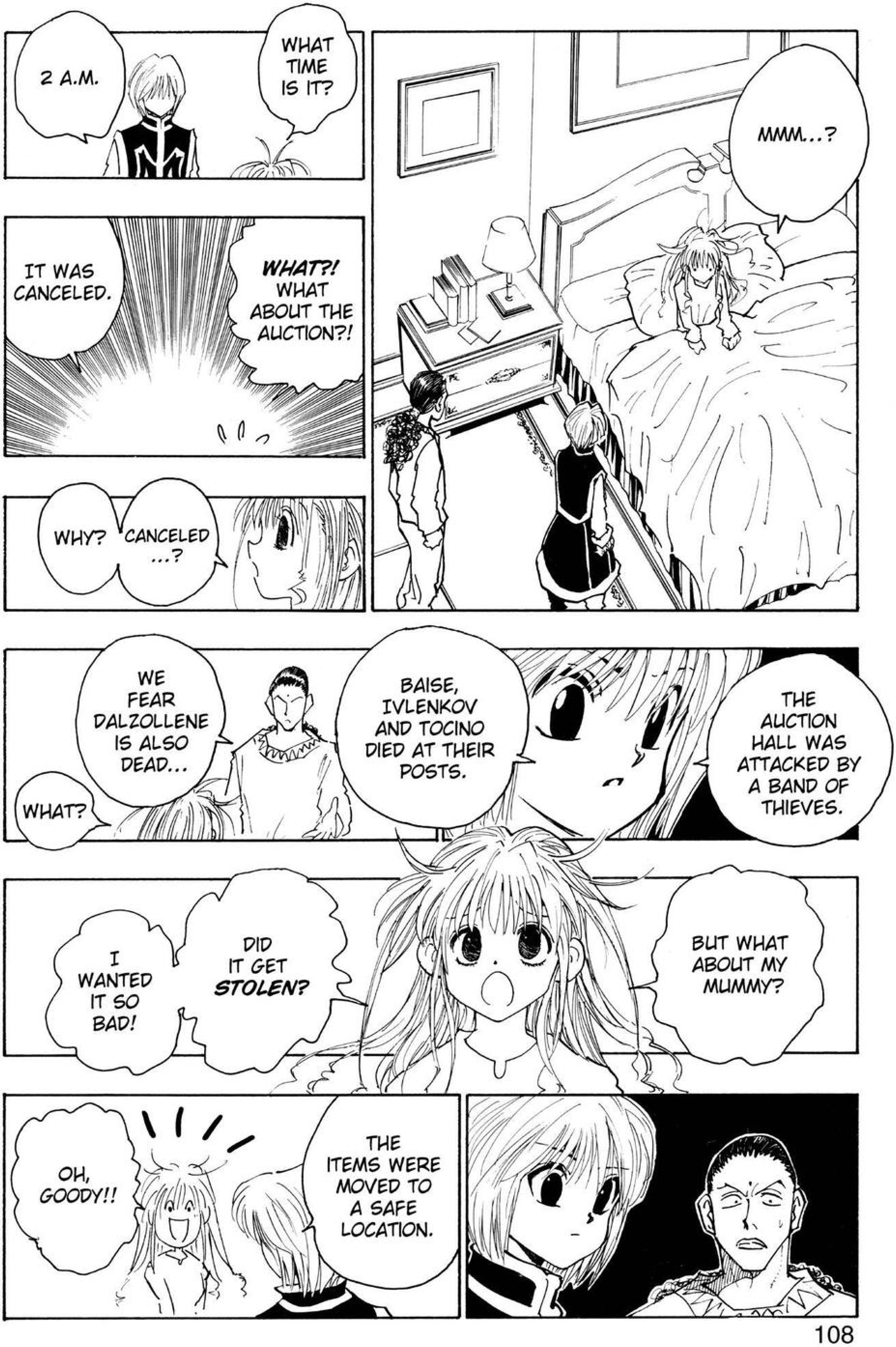

ON HIS OWN?!
NO, THE TROUPE CAME DISGUISED AS THE MAFIA.
THEY MUST'VE INTERCEPTED DALZOLLENE'S CALL!
DALZOLLENE IS MOST LIKELY DEAD...
!
WE'RE MOVING TO PLAN B.
PLEASE COME BACK!
...
HISOKA, I HAVE ONE QUESTION.
DO YOU KNOW WHERE THE SCARLET EYES ARE?
UNFORTUNATELY, THAT WAS BEFORE I JOINED. ♠

READ THIS WAY

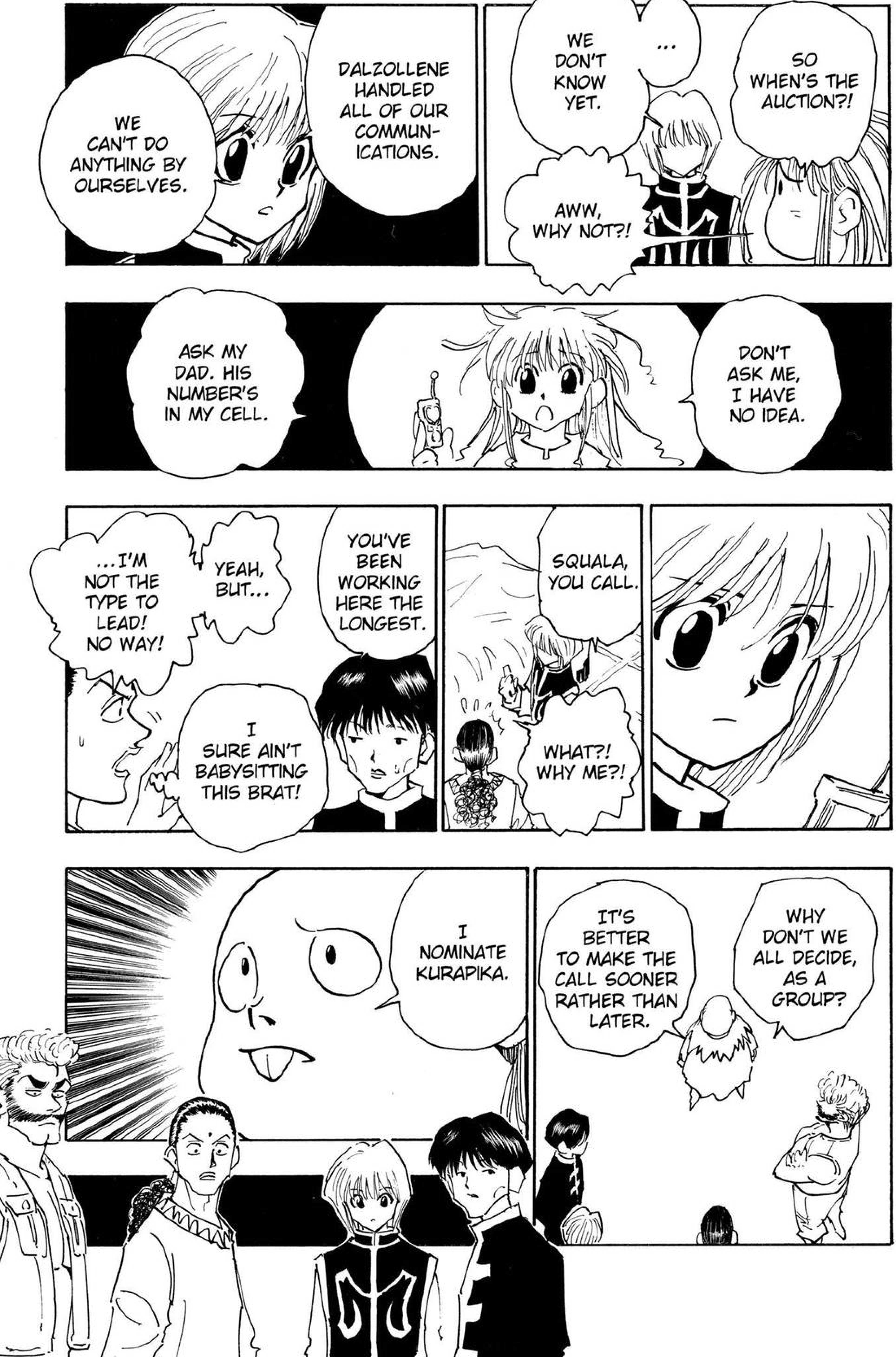

THE LEADER SELLS EVERYTHING AFTER FIRST REVELING IN THE SPOILS. ♣
I ASSUME THE SCARLET EYES WERE NO EXCEPTION. ♦
THAT'S ALL I KNOW. ♠
BUT I *CAN* SAY...
...THAT THE SPIDERS WILL KEEP GOING...
...AS LONG AS THEIR HEAD IS ALIVE. ♥
IT'S NOT LIKE WE'RE GETTING *MARRIED.* ♣
JUST SOME GIVE-AND-TAKE. ♥
IF THE TERMS AREN'T RIGHT, NOBODY'S HAND WILL BE FORCED. ♦
NO WORRIES, RIGHT?
SO WHAT DO YOU SAY?
SHF
I'LL GIVE YOU AN ANSWER SAME TIME TOMORROW.

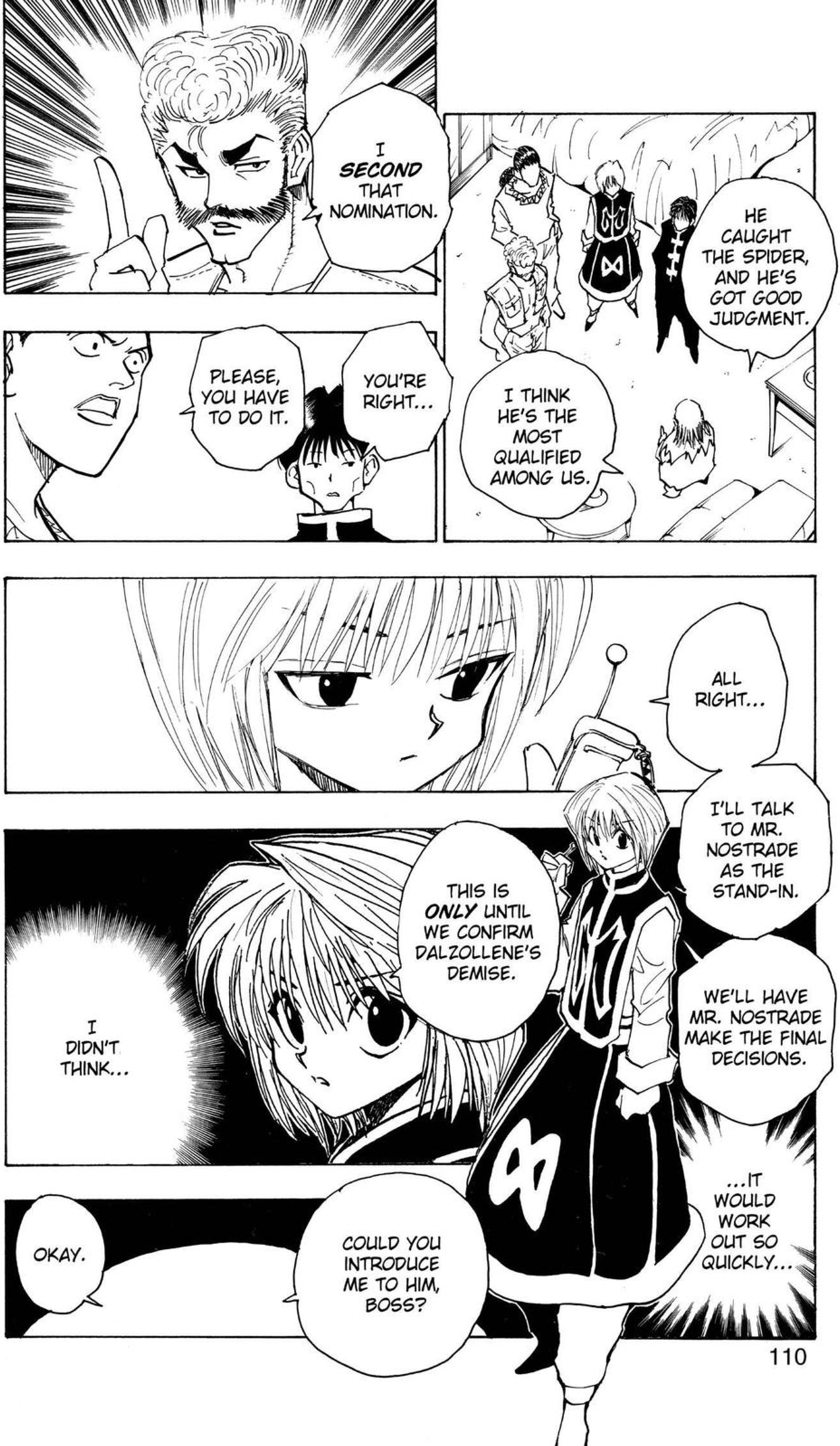

RRRRNG
RRRRNG
RRRRNG
RRRRNG
NO ANSWER.
YOU **KNOW** HE'S DEAD.
WE **HEARD** THE GUY STORMING UP THE STAIRS, HOLLERING FOR "THE CHAIN DUDE."
ESCAPE WAS THE RIGHT IDEA!

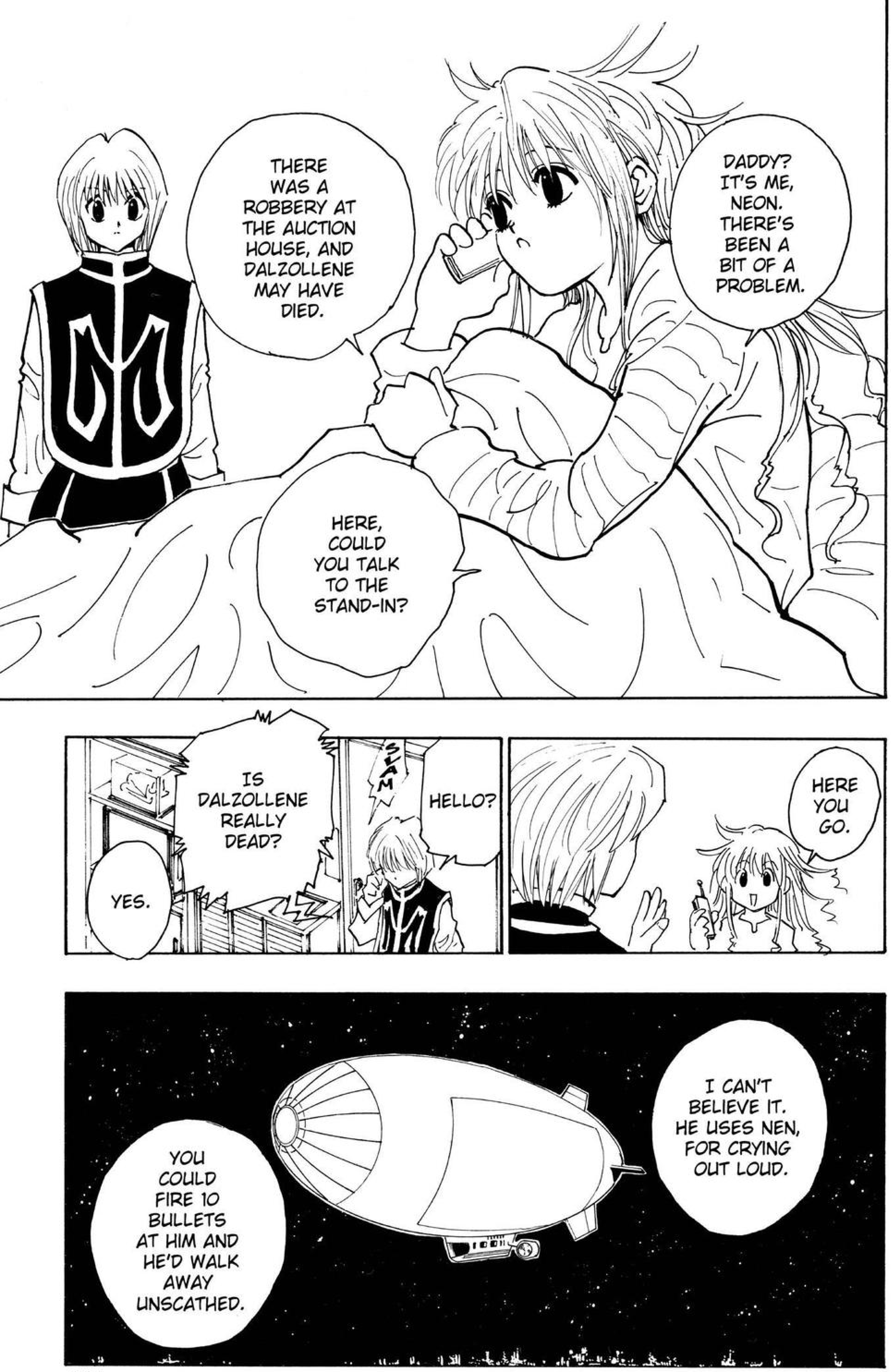

SO, NOW WHAT...?
OUR LEADER IS PROBABLY DEAD.
WE HAVEN'T FULFILLED OUR MISSION...
WE SHOULD REPORT BACK TO THE BOSS.
SHE'S A BOSS IN NAME ONLY. SHE'S JUST A KID.
OUR *REAL* EMPLOYER...
...IS HER FATHER, LIGHT NOSTRADE.
HE GAVE THE ORDERS, WHICH DALZOLLENE RELAYED.
ONLY DALZOLLENE KNEW HOW TO CONTACT HIM.
SHF
WE'LL HAVE TO TELL HER.
BOSS...
BOSS.

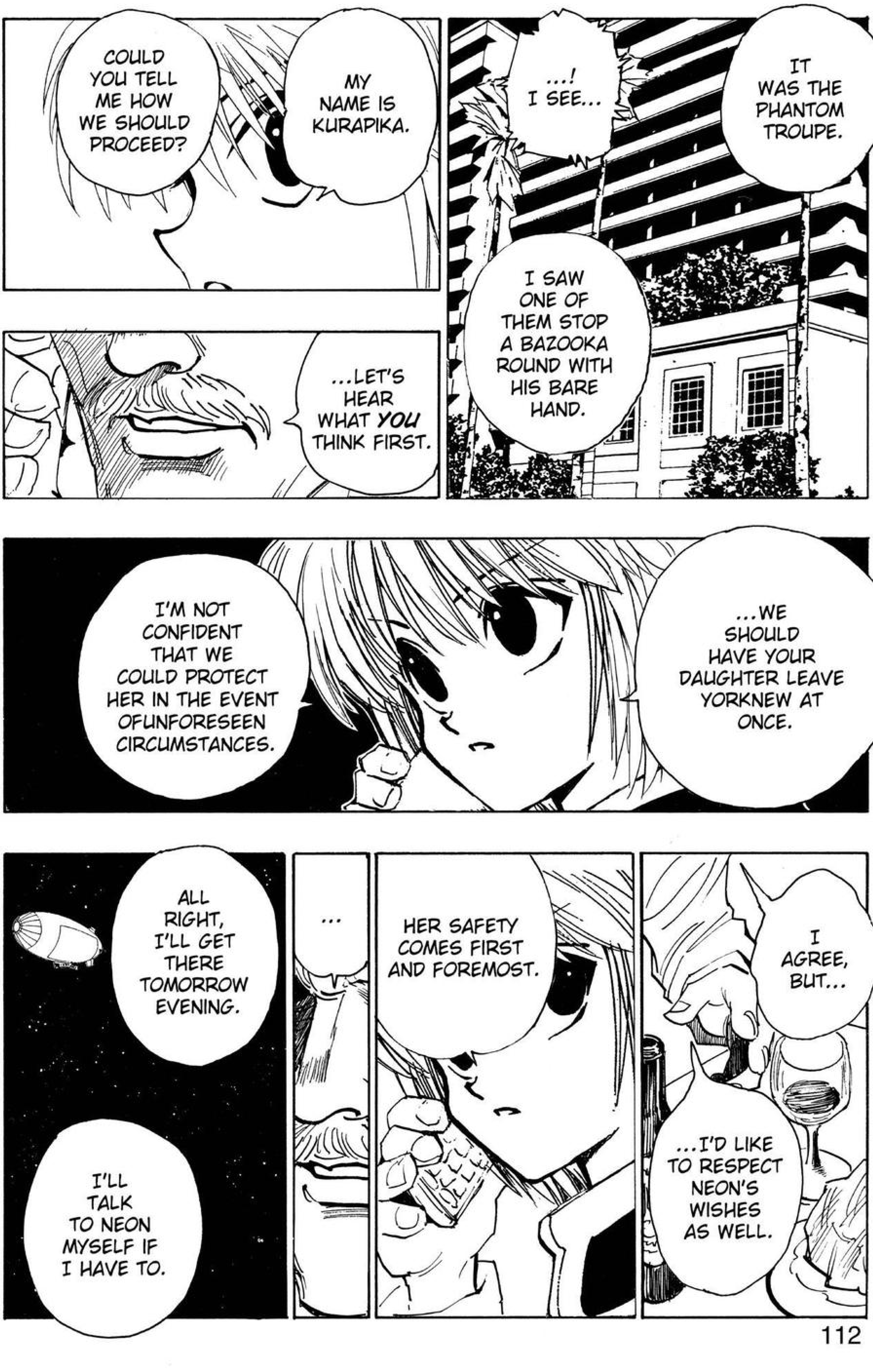

MMM...?
WHAT TIME IS IT?
2 A.M.
WHAT?! WHAT ABOUT THE AUCTION?!
IT WAS CANCELED.
CANCELED...?
WHY?
THE AUCTION HALL WAS ATTACKED BY A BAND OF THIEVES.
BAISE, IVLENKOV AND TOCINO DIED AT THEIR POSTS.
WE FEAR DALZOLLENE IS ALSO DEAD...
WHAT?
BUT WHAT ABOUT MY MUMMY?
DID IT GET STOLEN?
I WANTED IT SO BAD!
THE ITEMS WERE MOVED TO A SAFE LOCATION.
OH, GOODY!!

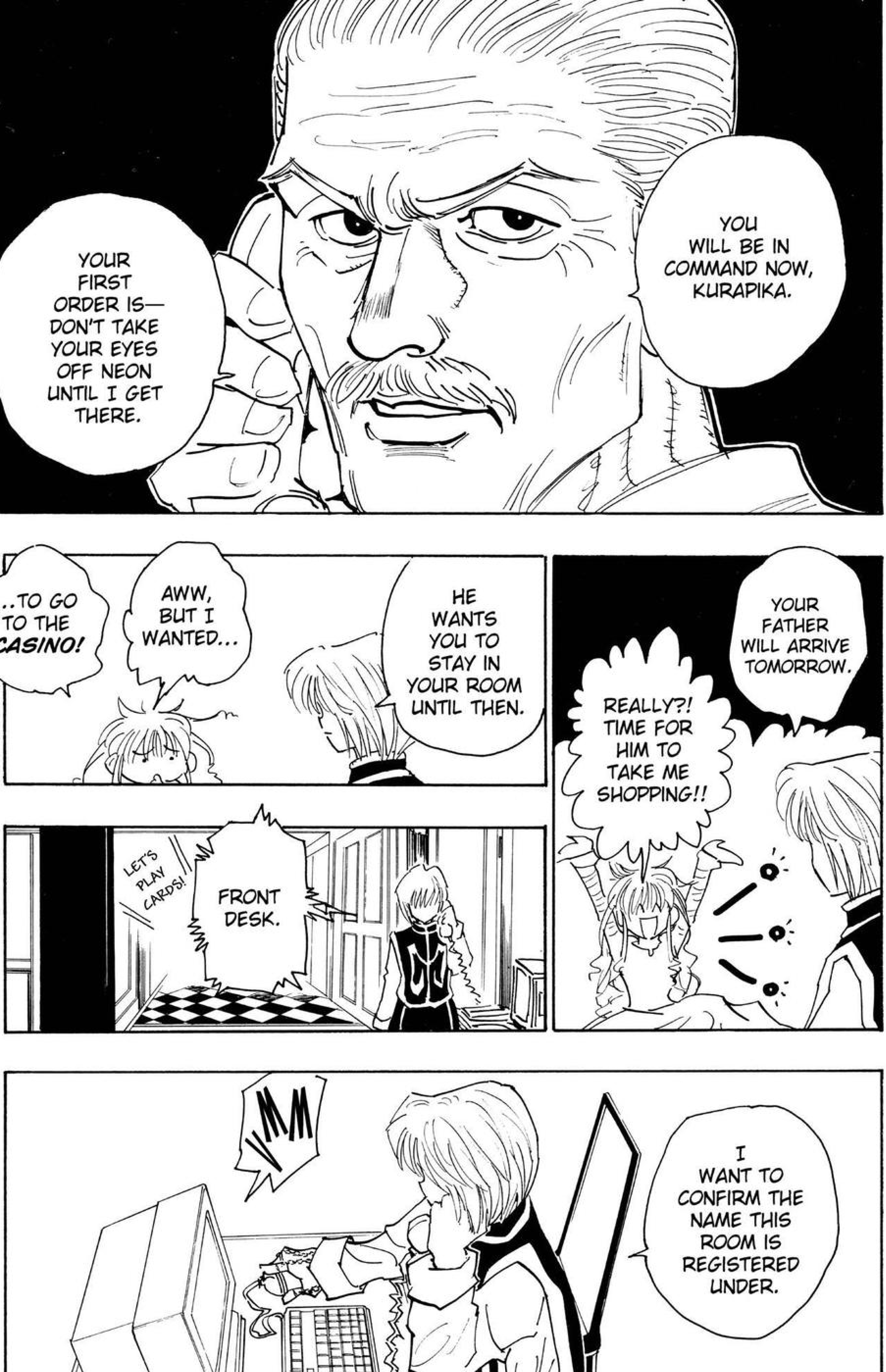
READ THIS WAY

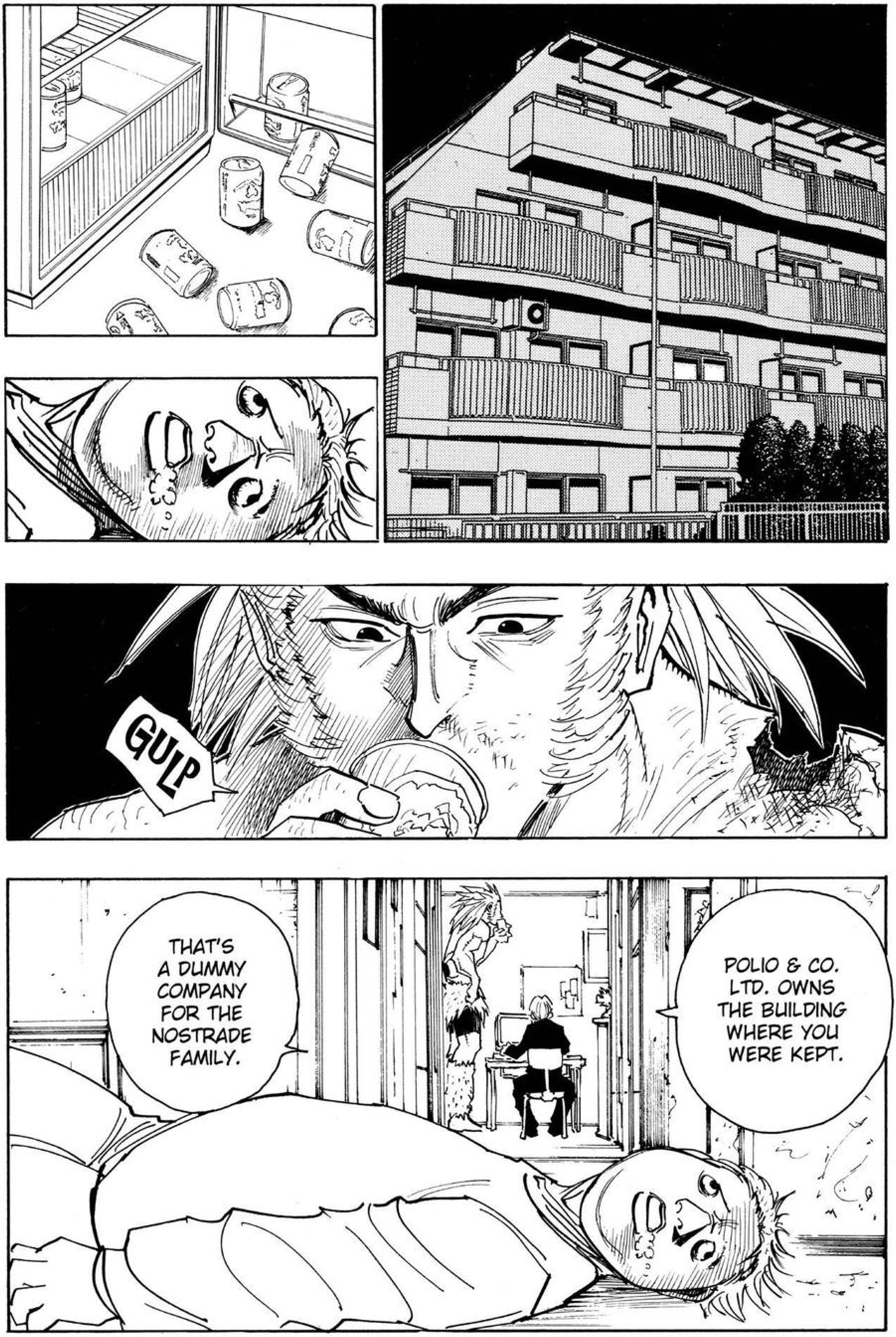

SO WHEN'S THE AUCTION?!
...
WE DON'T KNOW YET.
AWW, WHY NOT?!
DALZOLLENE HANDLED ALL OF OUR COMMUNICATIONS.
WE CAN'T DO ANYTHING BY OURSELVES.
DON'T ASK ME, I HAVE NO IDEA.
ASK MY DAD. HIS NUMBER'S IN MY CELL.
SQUALA, YOU CALL.
WHAT?! WHY ME?!
YOU'VE BEEN WORKING HERE THE LONGEST.
YEAH, BUT...
...I'M NOT THE TYPE TO LEAD! NO WAY!
I SURE AIN'T BABYSITTING THIS BRAT!
WHY DON'T WE ALL DECIDE, AS A GROUP?
IT'S BETTER TO MAKE THE CALL SOONER RATHER THAN LATER.
I NOMINATE KURAPIKA.

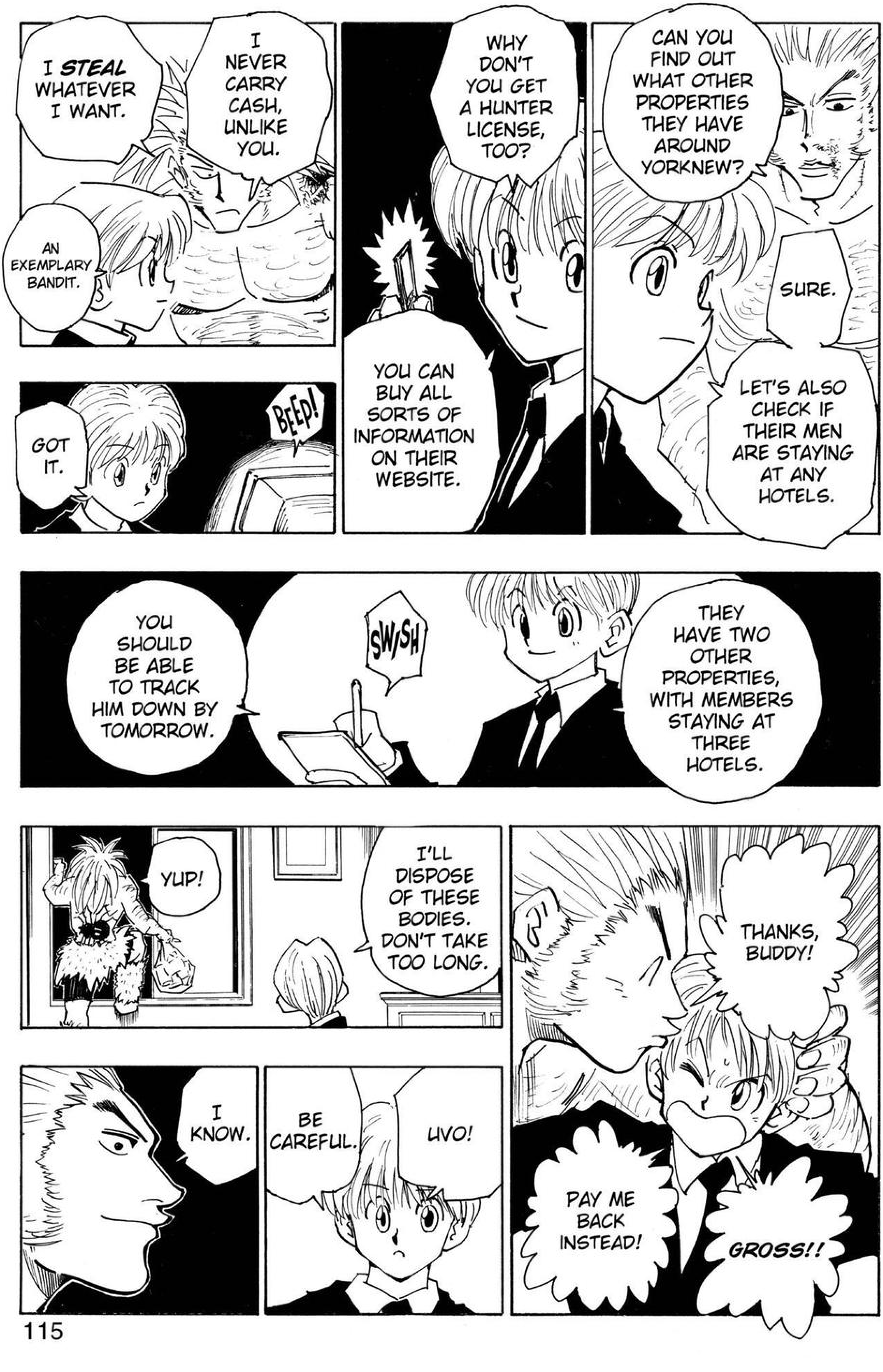

HE CAUGHT THE SPIDER, AND HE'S GOT GOOD JUDGMENT.
I THINK HE'S THE MOST QUALIFIED AMONG US.
I **SECOND** THAT NOMINATION.
YOU'RE RIGHT...
PLEASE, YOU HAVE TO DO IT.
ALL RIGHT...
I'LL TALK TO MR. NOSTRADE AS THE STAND-IN.
WE'LL HAVE MR. NOSTRADE MAKE THE FINAL DECISIONS.
THIS IS ***ONLY*** UNTIL WE CONFIRM DALZOLLENE'S DEMISE.
I DIDN'T THINK...
...IT WOULD WORK OUT SO QUICKLY...
COULD YOU INTRODUCE ME TO HIM, BOSS?
OKAY.

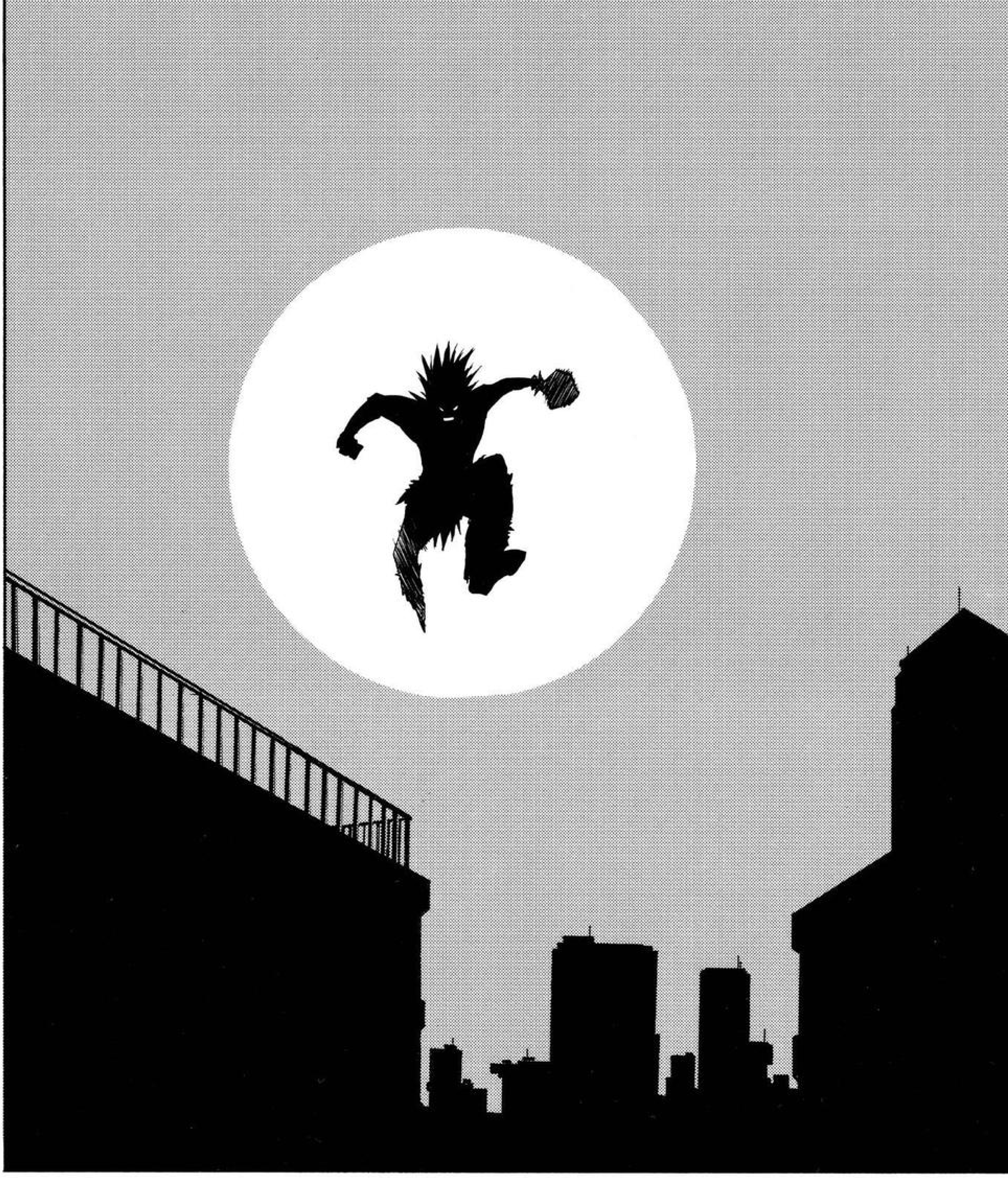

DADDY? IT'S ME, NEON. THERE'S BEEN A BIT OF A PROBLEM.
THERE WAS A ROBBERY AT THE AUCTION HOUSE, AND DALZOLLENE MAY HAVE DIED.
HERE, COULD YOU TALK TO THE STAND-IN?
HERE YOU GO.
HELLO?
SLAM
IS DALZOLLENE REALLY DEAD?
YES.
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT. HE USES NEN, FOR CRYING OUT LOUD.
YOU COULD FIRE 10 BULLETS AT HIM AND HE'D WALK AWAY UNSCATHED.

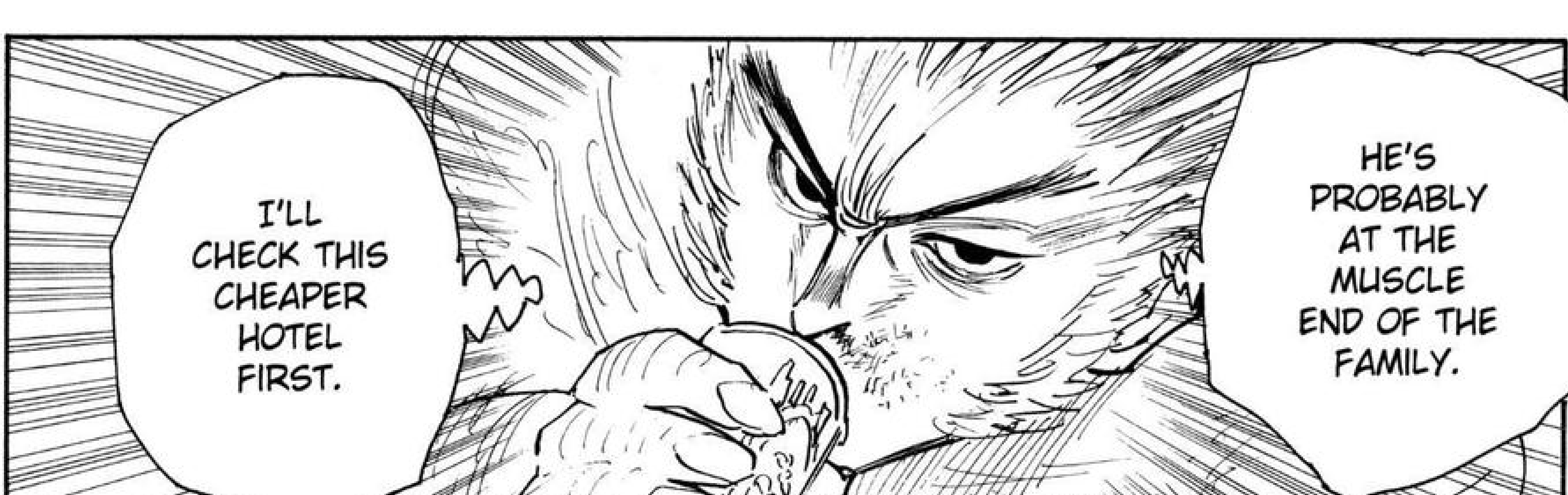

IT WAS THE PHANTOM TROUPE.
...! I SEE...
I SAW ONE OF THEM STOP A BAZOOKA ROUND WITH HIS BARE HAND.
MY NAME IS KURAPIKA.
COULD YOU TELL ME HOW WE SHOULD PROCEED?
...LET'S HEAR WHAT *YOU* THINK FIRST.
...WE SHOULD HAVE YOUR DAUGHTER LEAVE YORKNEW AT ONCE.
I'M NOT CONFIDENT THAT WE COULD PROTECT HER IN THE EVENT OFUNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES.
I AGREE, BUT...
...I'D LIKE TO RESPECT NEON'S WISHES AS WELL.
HER SAFETY COMES FIRST AND FOREMOST.
...
ALL RIGHT, I'LL GET THERE TOMORROW EVENING.
I'LL TALK TO NEON MYSELF IF I HAVE TO.


YOU WILL BE IN COMMAND NOW, KURAPIKA.
YOUR FIRST ORDER IS— DON'T TAKE YOUR EYES OFF NEON UNTIL I GET THERE.
YOUR FATHER WILL ARRIVE TOMORROW.
REALLY?! TIME FOR HIM TO TAKE ME SHOPPING!!
HE WANTS YOU TO STAY IN YOUR ROOM UNTIL THEN.
AWW, BUT I WANTED…
…TO GO TO THE *CASINO!*
FRONT DESK.
LET'S PLAY CARDS!
VMM
I WANT TO CONFIRM THE NAME THIS ROOM IS REGISTERED UNDER.

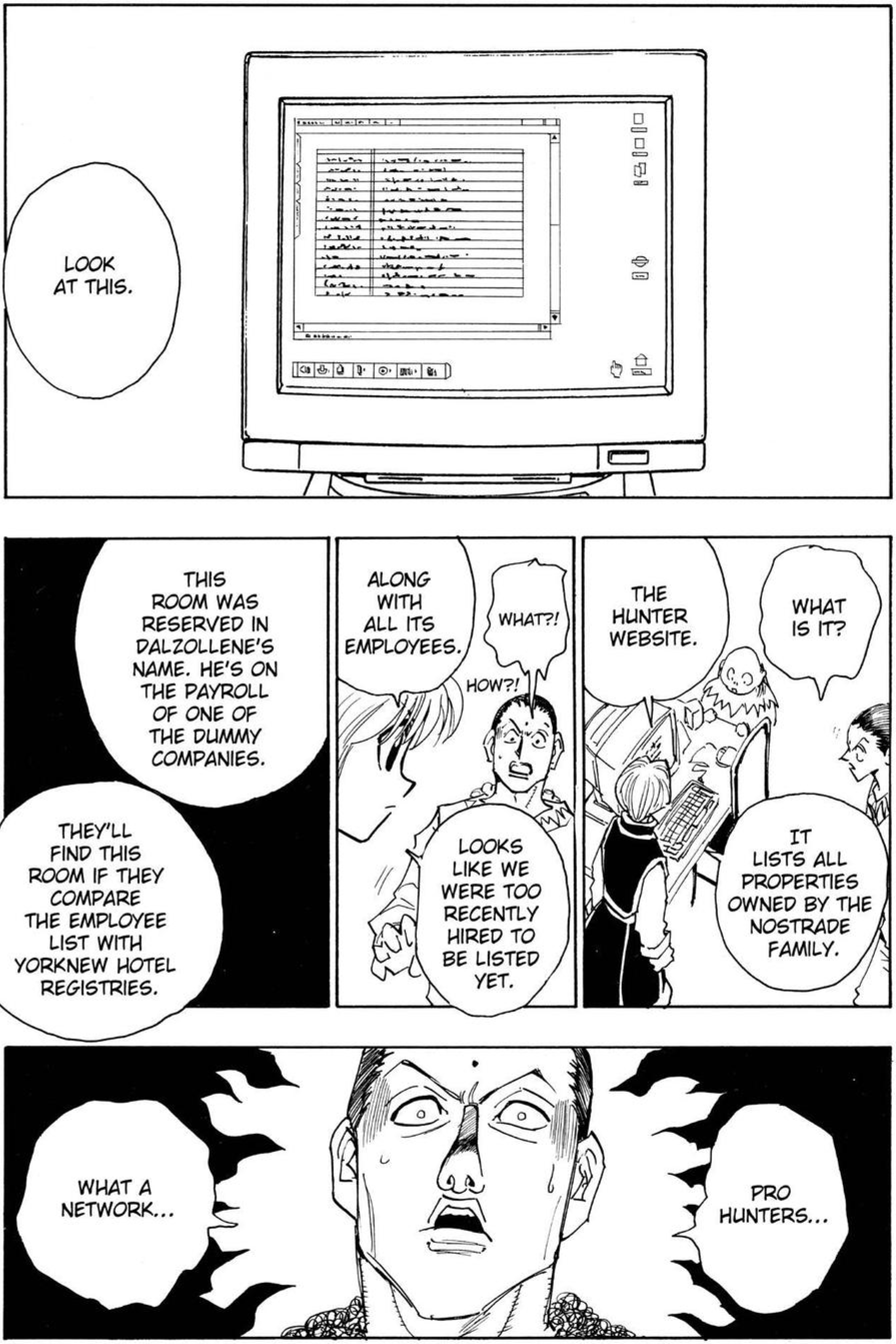

GULP
POLIO & CO. LTD. OWNS THE BUILDING WHERE YOU WERE KEPT.
THAT'S A DUMMY COMPANY FOR THE NOSTRADE FAMILY.

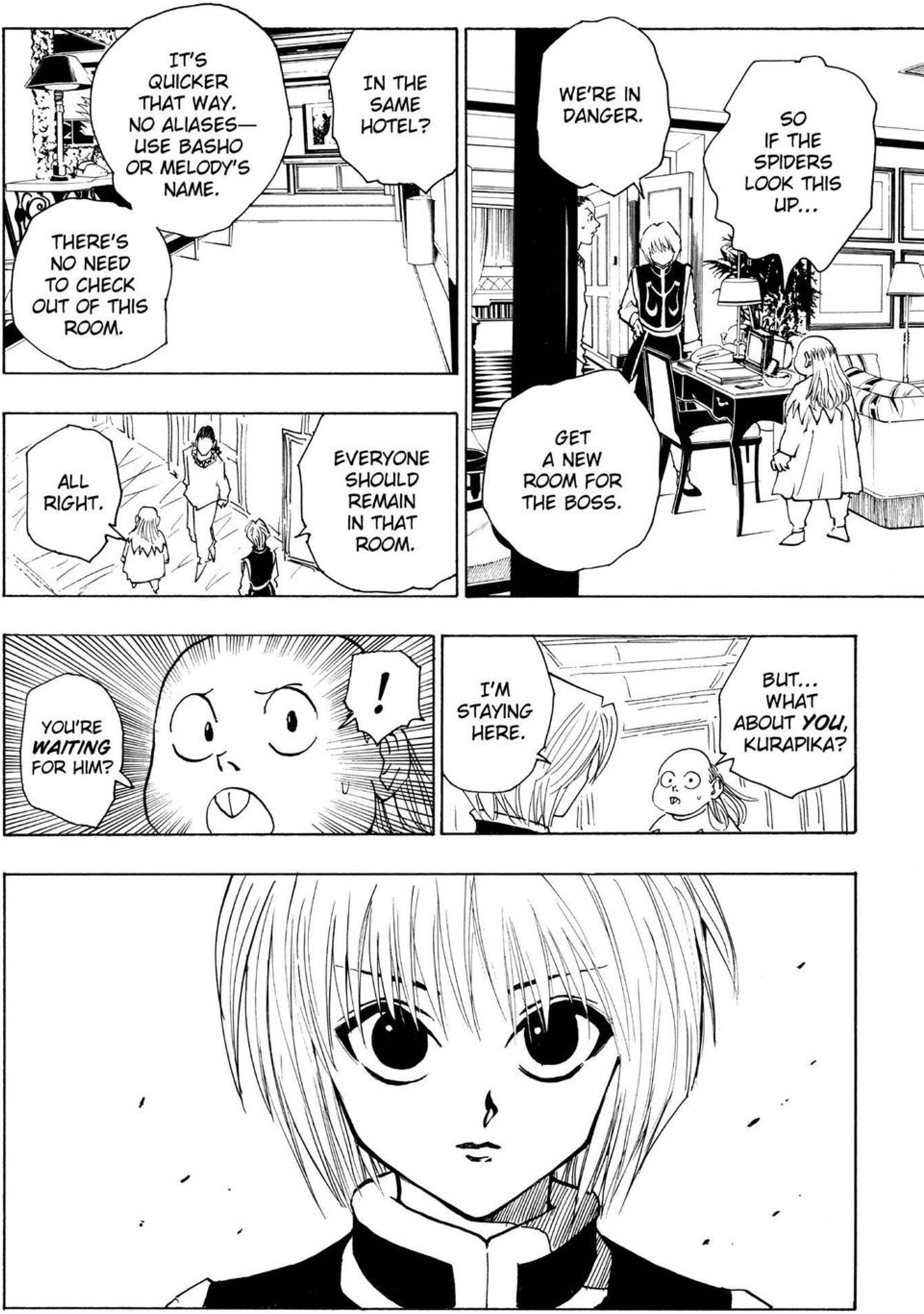

CAN YOU FIND OUT WHAT OTHER PROPERTIES THEY HAVE AROUND YORKNEW?
SURE.
LET'S ALSO CHECK IF THEIR MEN ARE STAYING AT ANY HOTELS.
WHY DON'T YOU GET A HUNTER LICENSE, TOO?
YOU CAN BUY ALL SORTS OF INFORMATION ON THEIR WEBSITE.
I NEVER CARRY CASH, UNLIKE YOU.
I **STEAL** WHATEVER I WANT.
AN EXEMPLARY BANDIT.
BEEP!
GOT IT.
THEY HAVE TWO OTHER PROPERTIES, WITH MEMBERS STAYING AT THREE HOTELS.
SWISH
YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO TRACK HIM DOWN BY TOMORROW.
THANKS, BUDDY!
GROSS!!
PAY ME BACK INSTEAD!
I'LL DISPOSE OF THESE BODIES. DON'T TAKE TOO LONG.
YUP!
UVO!
BE CAREFUL.
I KNOW.

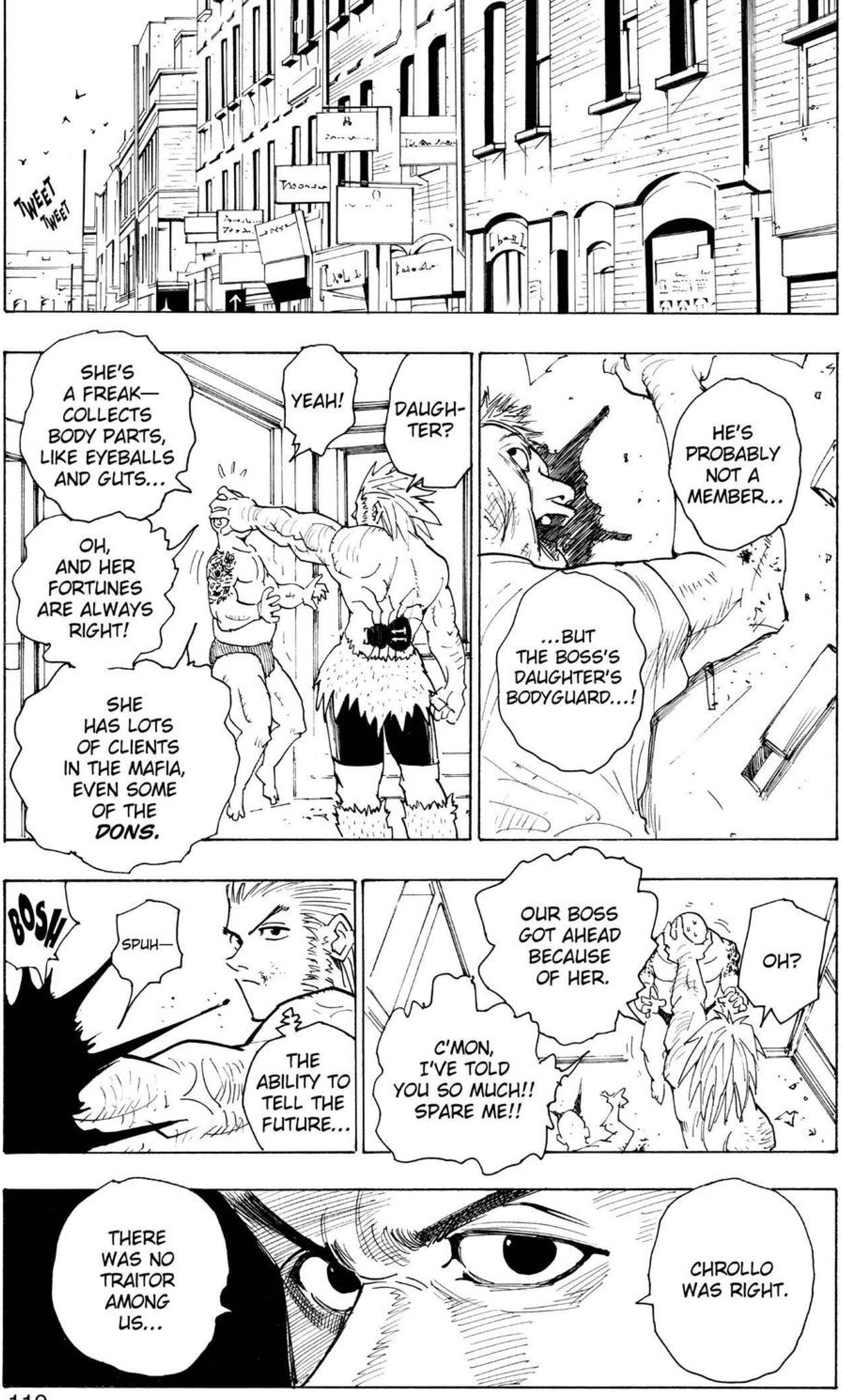



HE'S PROBABLY AT THE MUSCLE END OF THE FAMILY.
I'LL CHECK THIS CHEAPER HOTEL FIRST.

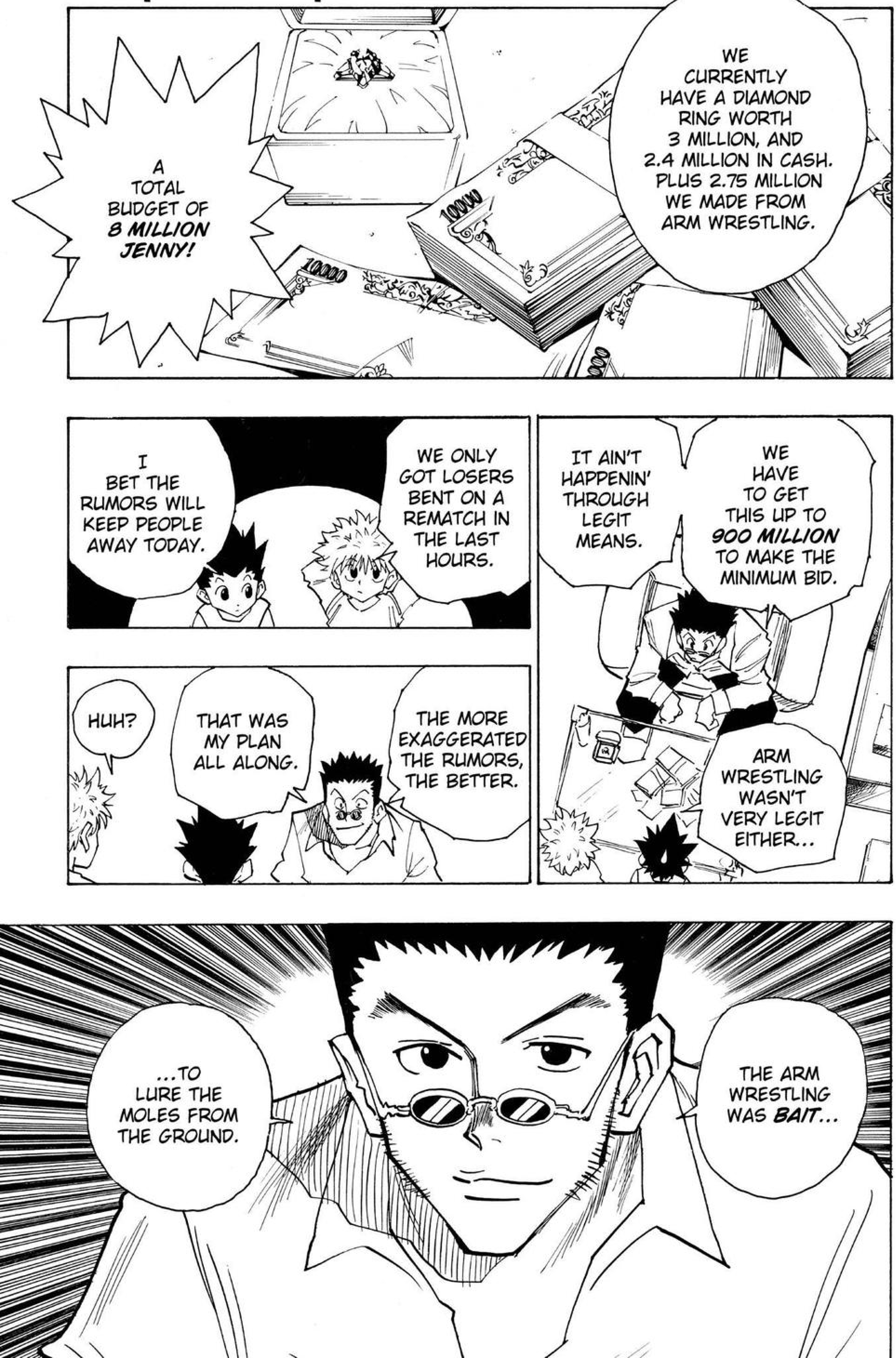
READ THIS WAY

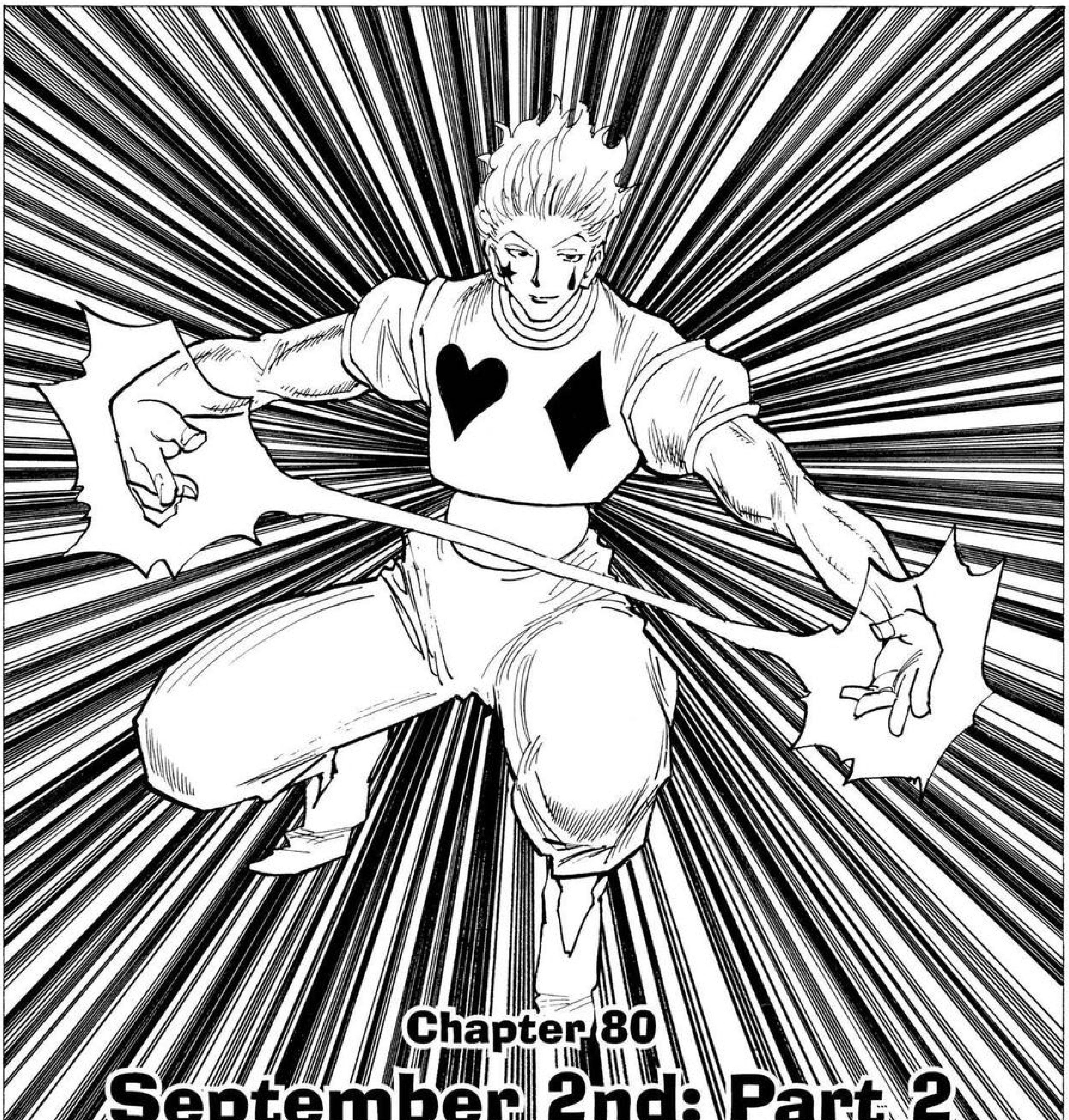

LOOK AT THIS.
WHAT IS IT?
THE HUNTER WEBSITE.
IT LISTS ALL PROPERTIES OWNED BY THE NOSTRADE FAMILY.
WHAT?!
ALONG WITH ALL ITS EMPLOYEES.
HOW?!
LOOKS LIKE WE WERE TOO RECENTLY HIRED TO BE LISTED YET.
THIS ROOM WAS RESERVED IN DALZOLLENE'S NAME. HE'S ON THE PAYROLL OF ONE OF THE DUMMY COMPANIES.
THEY'LL FIND THIS ROOM IF THEY COMPARE THE EMPLOYEE LIST WITH YORKNEW HOTEL REGISTRIES.
PRO HUNTERS...
WHAT A NETWORK...


SO IF THE SPIDERS LOOK THIS UP…
WE'RE IN DANGER.
GET A NEW ROOM FOR THE BOSS.
IN THE SAME HOTEL?
IT'S QUICKER THAT WAY. NO ALIASES— USE BASHO OR MELODY'S NAME.
THERE'S NO NEED TO CHECK OUT OF THIS ROOM.
EVERYONE SHOULD REMAIN IN THAT ROOM.
ALL RIGHT.
BUT… WHAT ABOUT ***YOU***, KURAPIKA?
I'M STAYING HERE.
!
YOU'RE ***WAITING*** FOR HIM?


TWEET TWEET
HE'S PROBABLY NOT A MEMBER...
...BUT THE BOSS'S DAUGHTER'S BODYGUARD...!
DAUGHTER?
YEAH!
SHE'S A FREAK—COLLECTS BODY PARTS, LIKE EYEBALLS AND GUTS...
OH, AND HER FORTUNES ARE ALWAYS RIGHT!
SHE HAS LOTS OF CLIENTS IN THE MAFIA, EVEN SOME OF THE ***DONS.***
OH?
OUR BOSS GOT AHEAD BECAUSE OF HER.
C'MON, I'VE TOLD YOU SO MUCH!! SPARE ME!!
THE ABILITY TO TELL THE FUTURE...
SPUH—
BOSH
CHROLLO WAS RIGHT.
THERE WAS NO TRAITOR AMONG US...

Chapter 80 September 2nd: Part 2


WE CURRENTLY HAVE A DIAMOND RING WORTH 3 MILLION, AND 2.4 MILLION IN CASH. PLUS 2.75 MILLION WE MADE FROM ARM WRESTLING.
A TOTAL BUDGET OF *8 MILLION JENNY!*
WE HAVE TO GET THIS UP TO ***900 MILLION*** TO MAKE THE MINIMUM BID.
IT AIN'T HAPPENIN' THROUGH LEGIT MEANS.
ARM WRESTLING WASN'T VERY LEGIT EITHER...
WE ONLY GOT LOSERS BENT ON A REMATCH IN THE LAST HOURS.
I BET THE RUMORS WILL KEEP PEOPLE AWAY TODAY.
THE MORE EXAGGERATED THE RUMORS, THE BETTER.
THAT WAS MY PLAN ALL ALONG.
HUH?
THE ARM WRESTLING WAS ***BAIT...***
...TO LURE THE MOLES FROM THE GROUND.

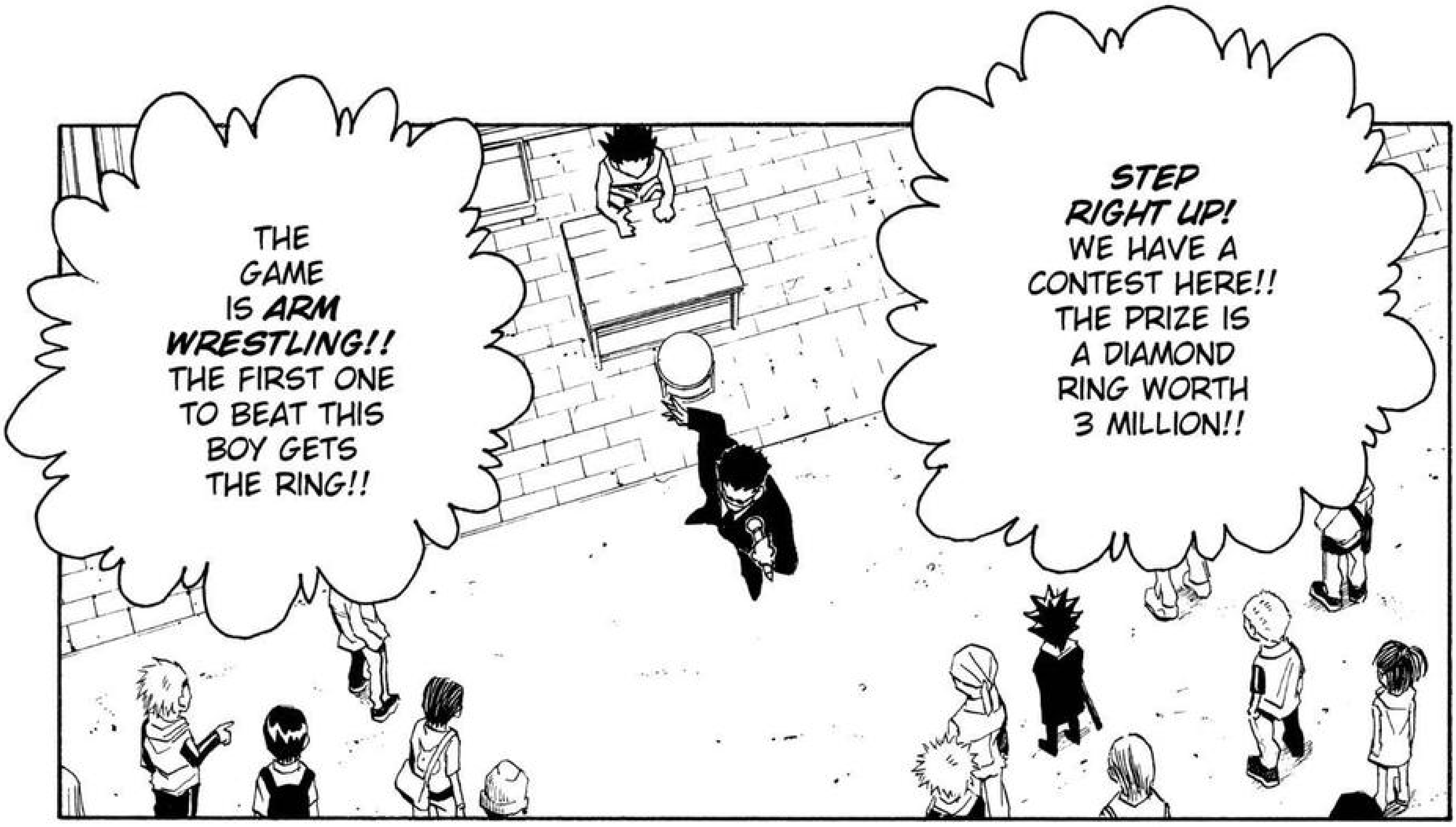


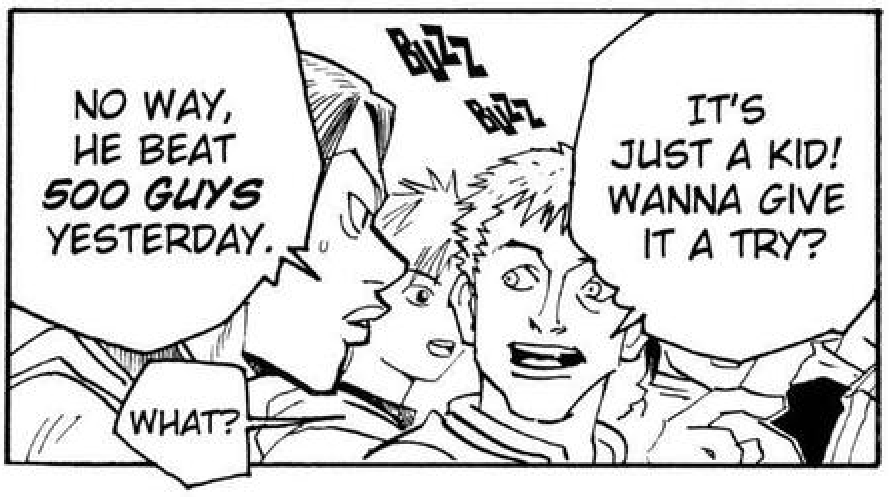
Chapter 80

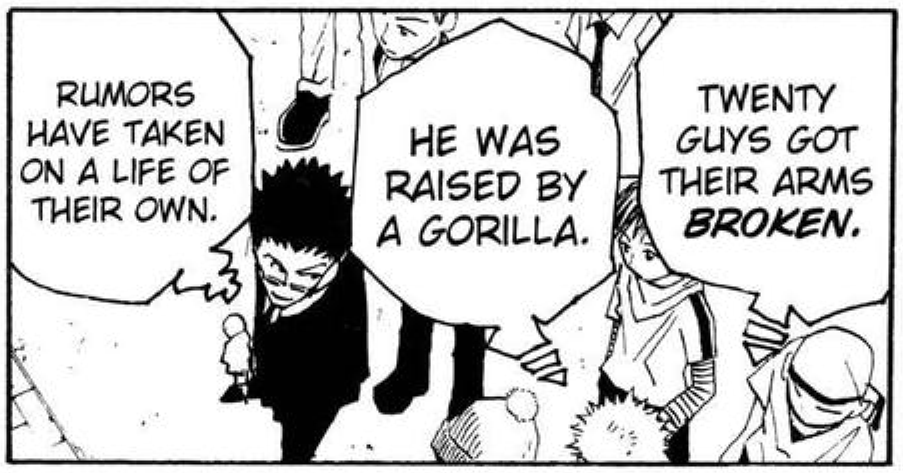
September 2nd: Part 2

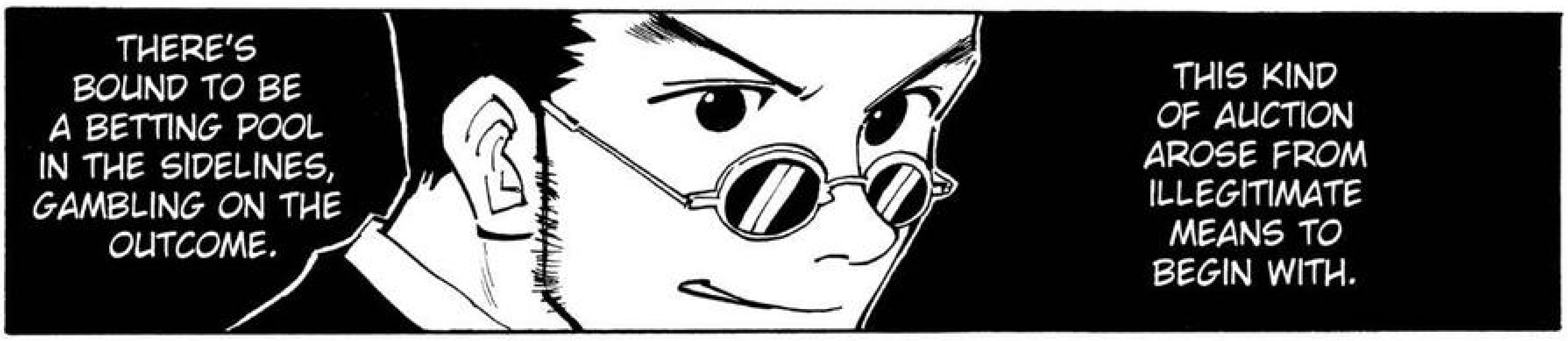
HISOKA (TRANSMUTER)

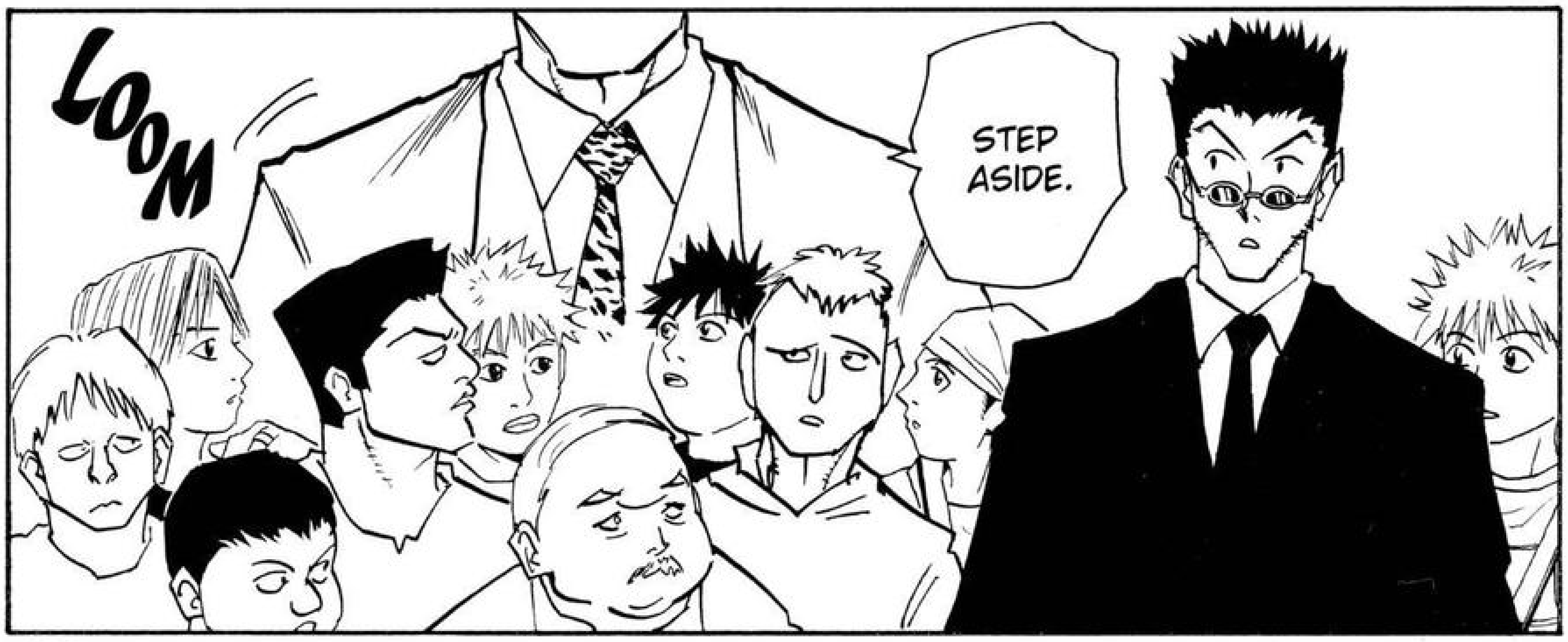
HE TURNS HIS AURA INTO A STICKY RUBBER-LIKE SUBSTANCE TO MAKE "BUNGEE GUM." "TEXTURE SURPRISE" REPRODUCES VARIOUS TEXTURES LIKE A STICKER. BUNGEE GUM SNAPS BACK WITH GREATER FORCE THE MORE IT'S STRETCHED, BUT IF DETACHED FROM HISOKA'S BODY, IT WILL TEAR AFTER A MAXIMUM STRETCH OF 10 MILLIMETERS.

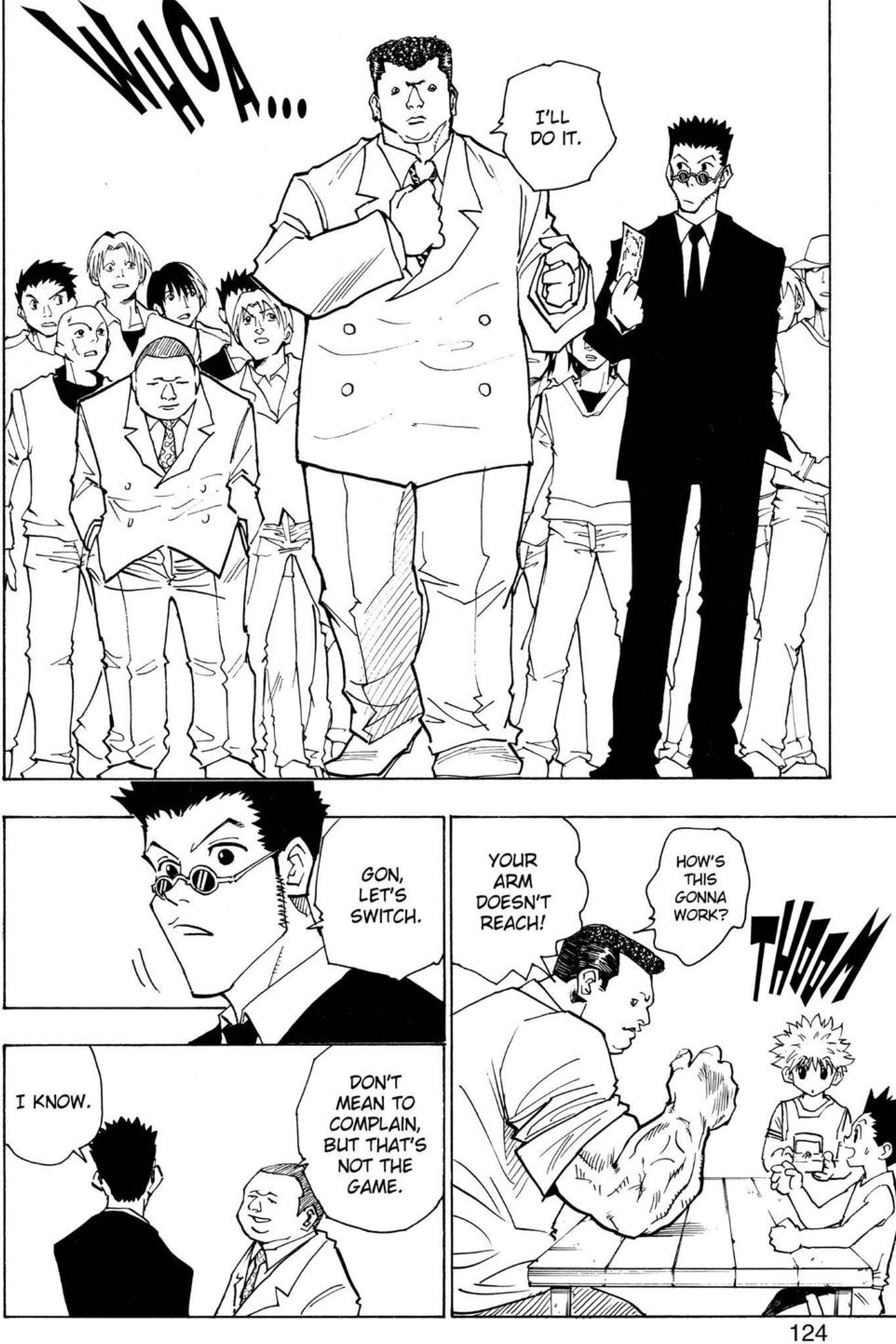

STEP RIGHT UP! WE HAVE A CONTEST HERE!! THE PRIZE IS A DIAMOND RING WORTH 3 MILLION!!
THE GAME IS ARM WRESTLING!! THE FIRST ONE TO BEAT THIS BOY GETS THE RING!!


IT'S JUST A KID! WANNA GIVE IT A TRY?
BUZZ BUZZ
NO WAY, HE BEAT 500 GUYS YESTERDAY.
WHAT?

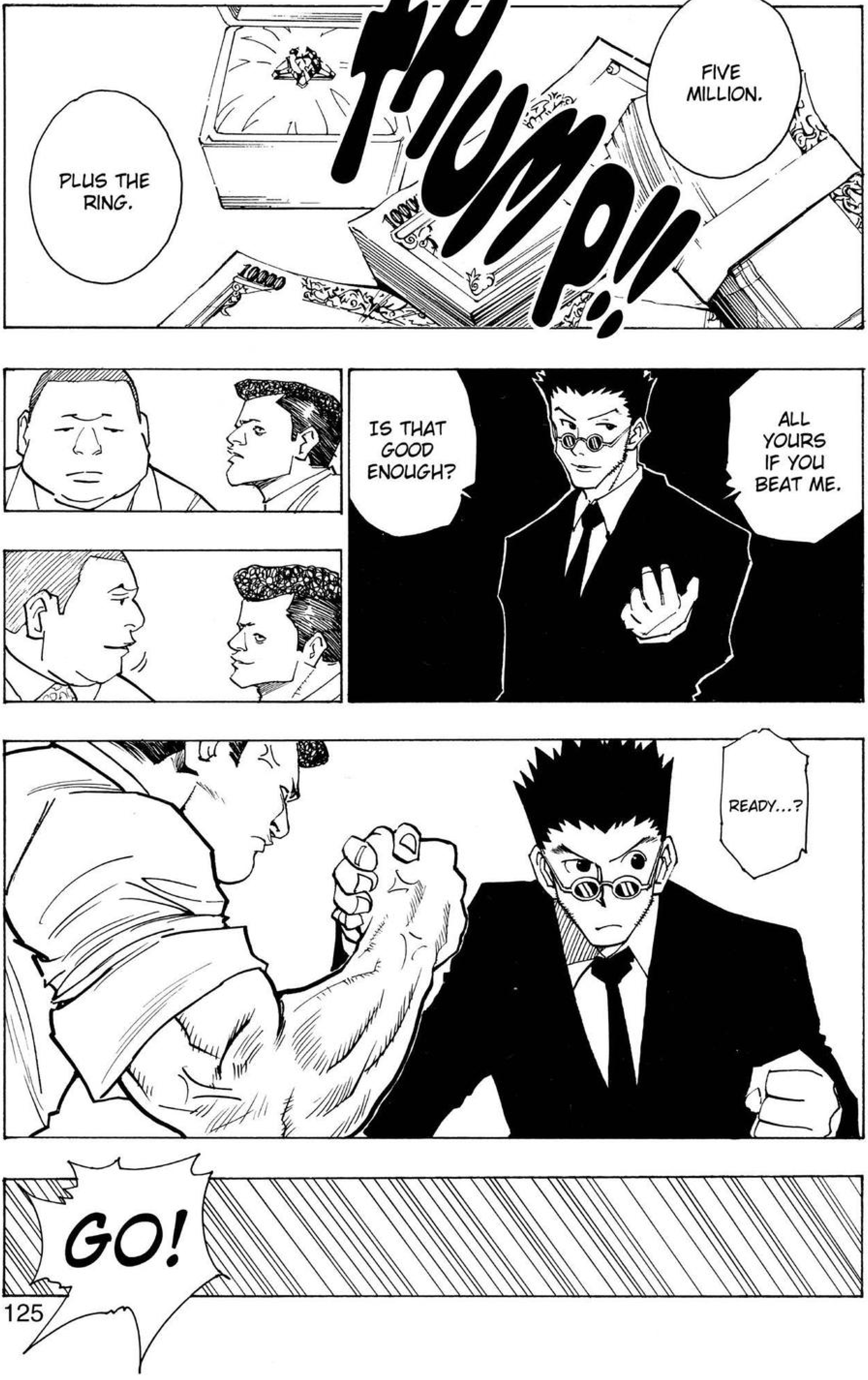

TWENTY GUYS GOT THEIR ARMS BROKEN.
HE WAS RAISED BY A GORILLA.
RUMORS HAVE TAKEN ON A LIFE OF THEIR OWN.

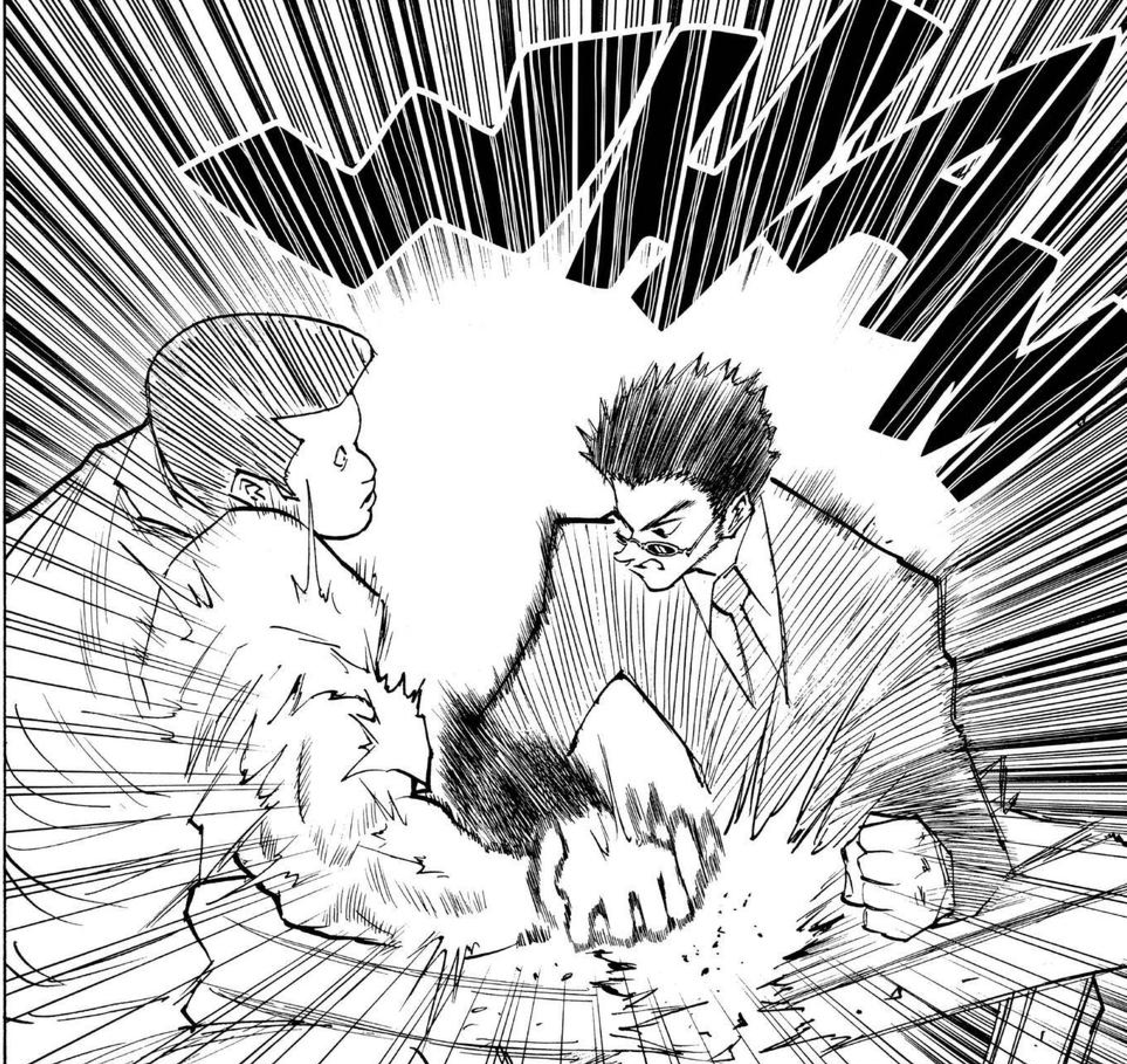

THIS KIND OF AUCTION AROSE FROM ILLEGITIMATE MEANS TO BEGIN WITH.
THERE'S BOUND TO BE A BETTING POOL IN THE SIDELINES, GAMBLING ON THE OUTCOME.


STEP ASIDE.
LOOM

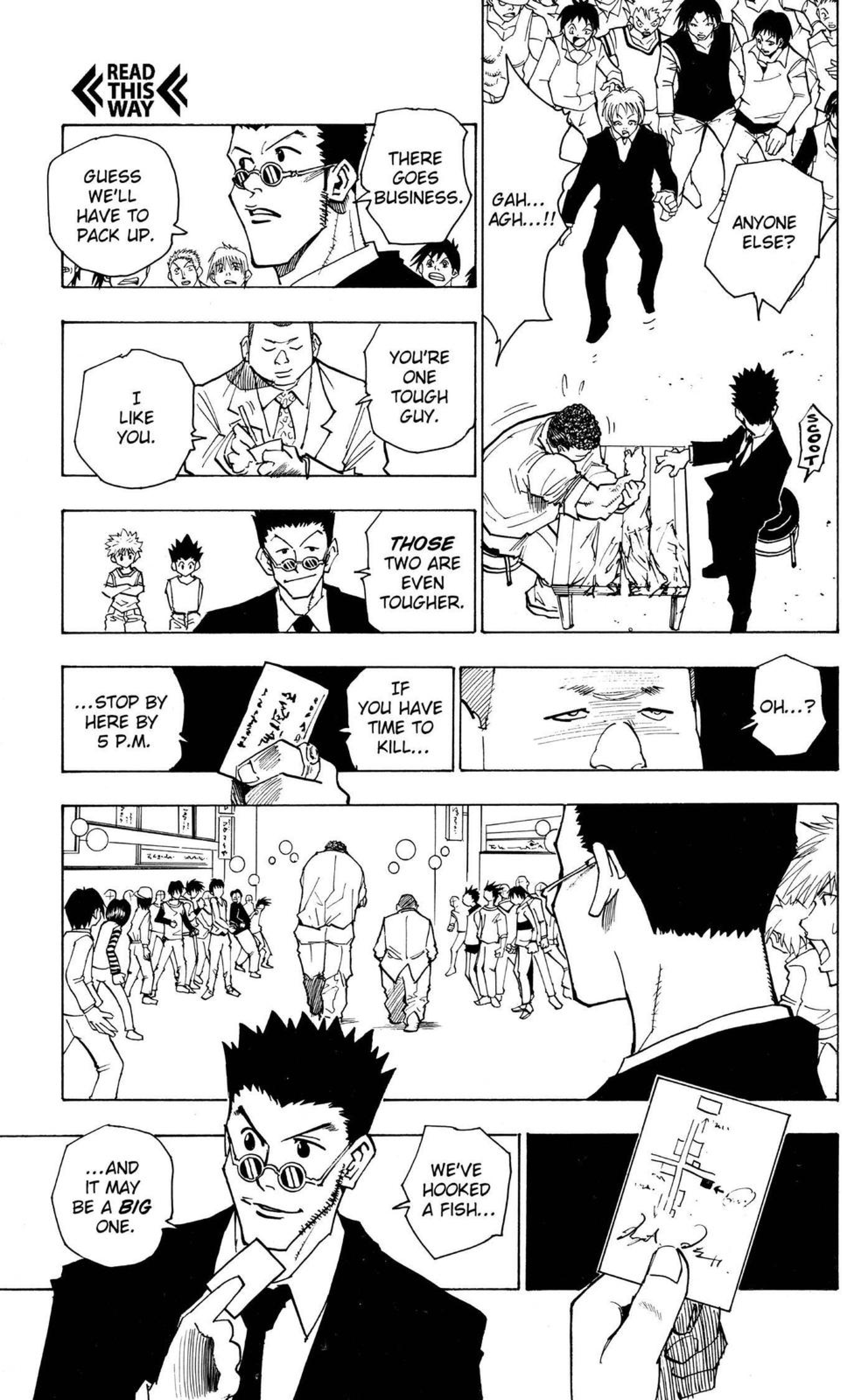

WHOA...
I'LL DO IT.
HOW'S THIS GONNA WORK?
YOUR ARM DOESN'T REACH!
THOOM
GON, LET'S SWITCH.
DON'T MEAN TO COMPLAIN, BUT THAT'S NOT THE GAME.
I KNOW.

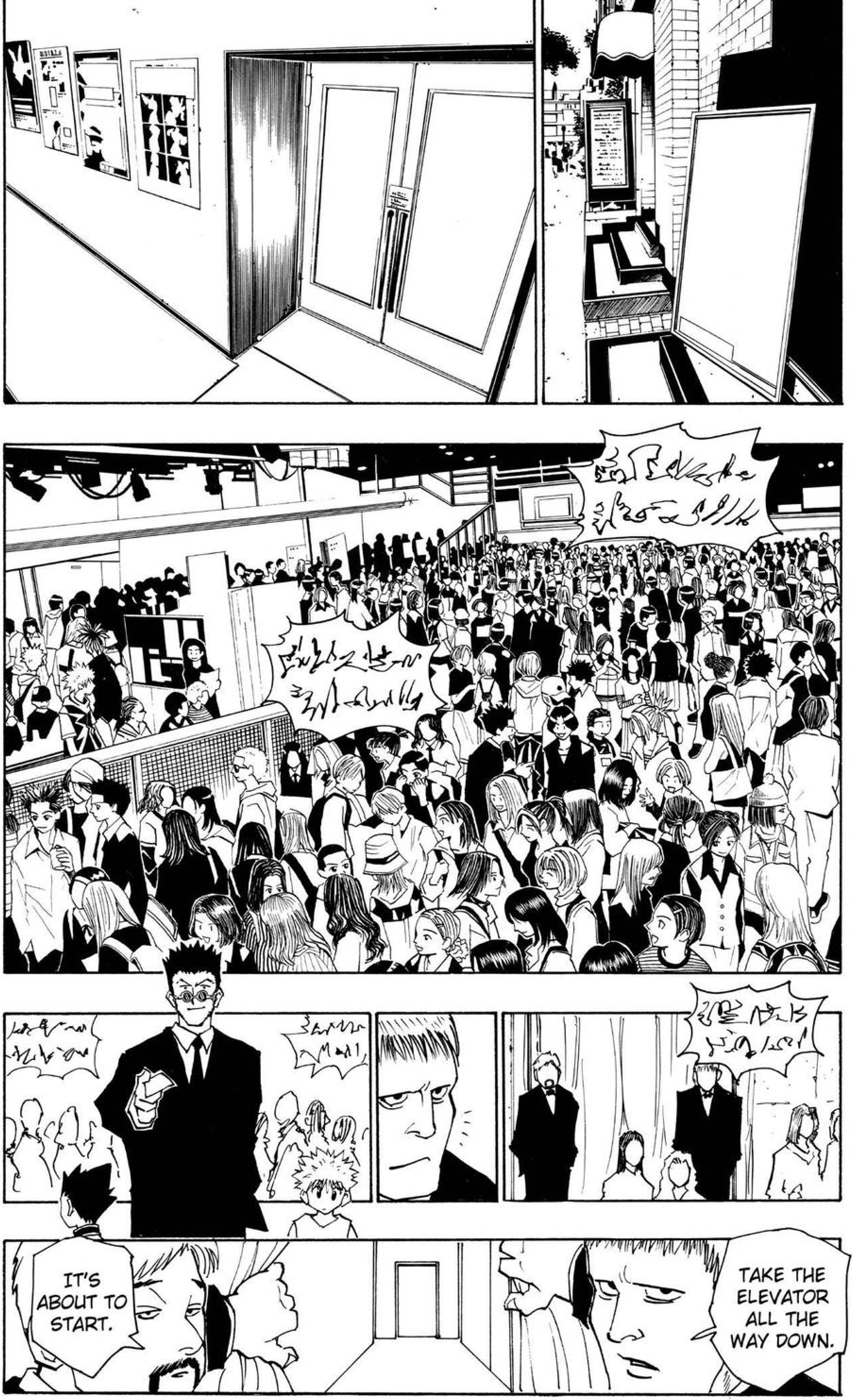
READ THIS WAY


FIVE MILLION.
THUMP!!
PLUS THE RING.
ALL YOURS IF YOU BEAT ME.
IS THAT GOOD ENOUGH?
READY...?
GO!

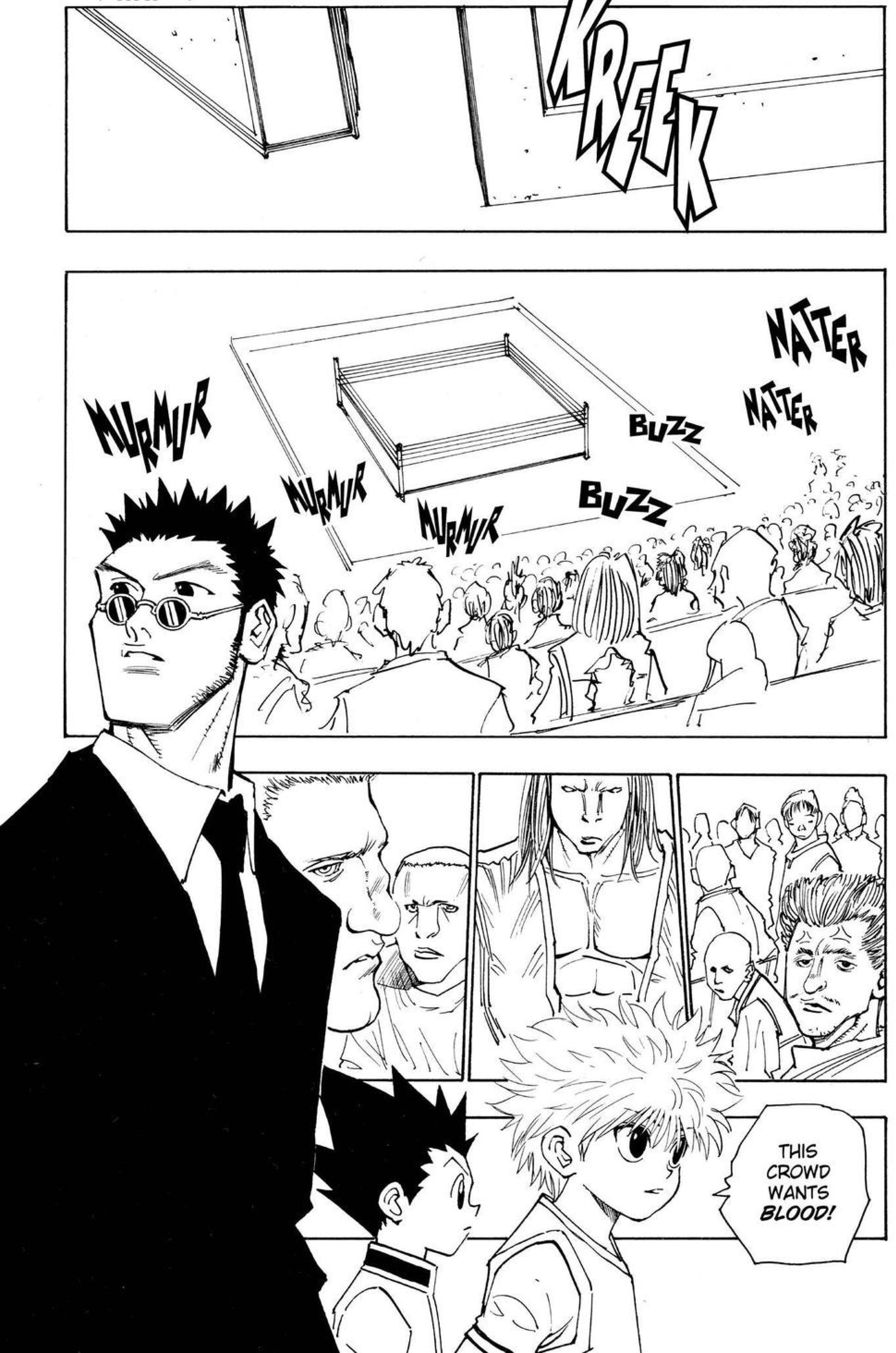


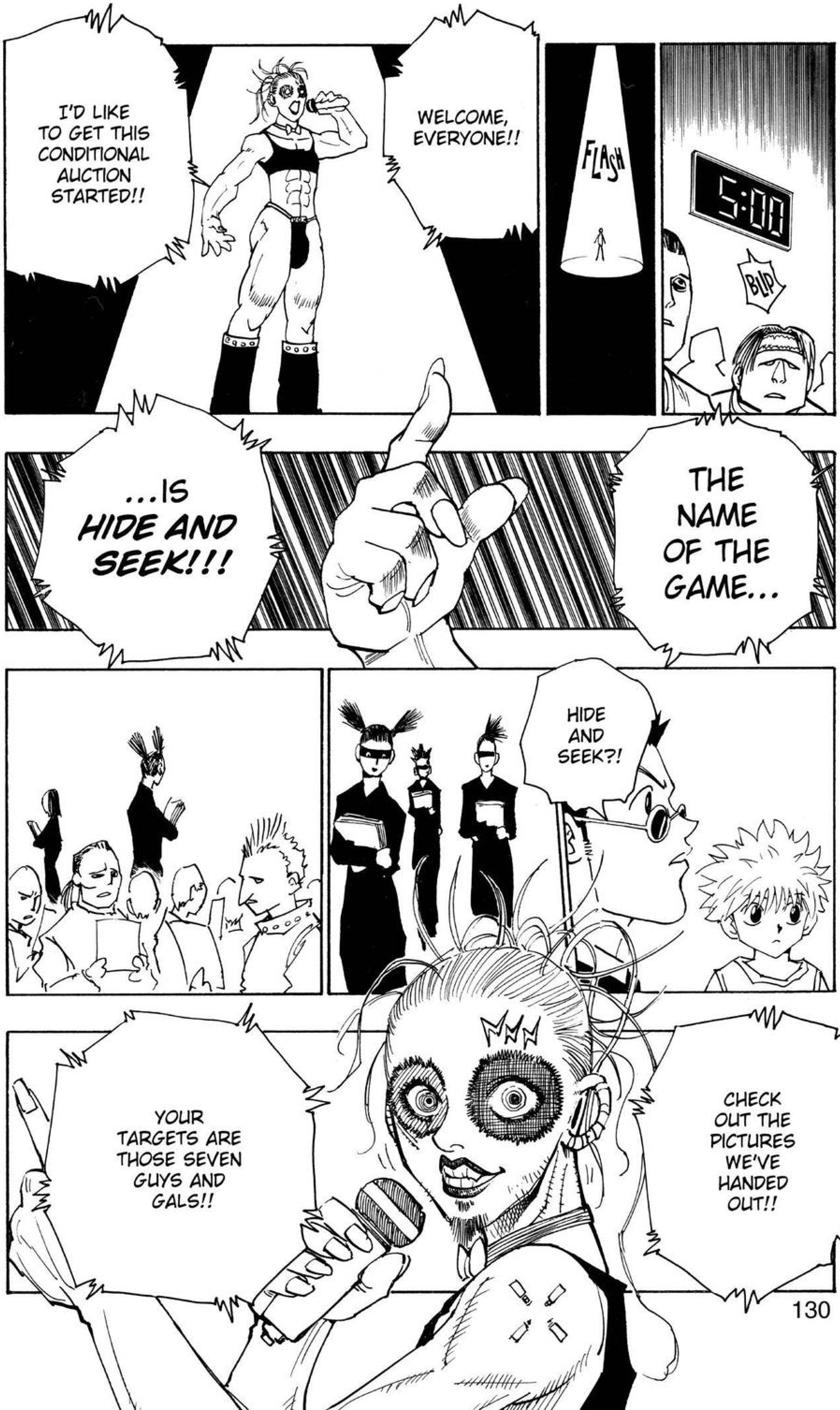
READ THIS WAY


ANYONE ELSE?
GAH... AGH...!!
SCOOT
THERE GOES BUSINESS.
GUESS WE'LL HAVE TO PACK UP.
YOU'RE ONE TOUGH GUY.
I LIKE YOU.
THOSE TWO ARE EVEN TOUGHER.
OH...?
IF YOU HAVE TIME TO KILL...
...STOP BY HERE BY 5 P.M.
WE'VE HOOKED A FISH...
...AND IT MAY BE A BIG ONE.

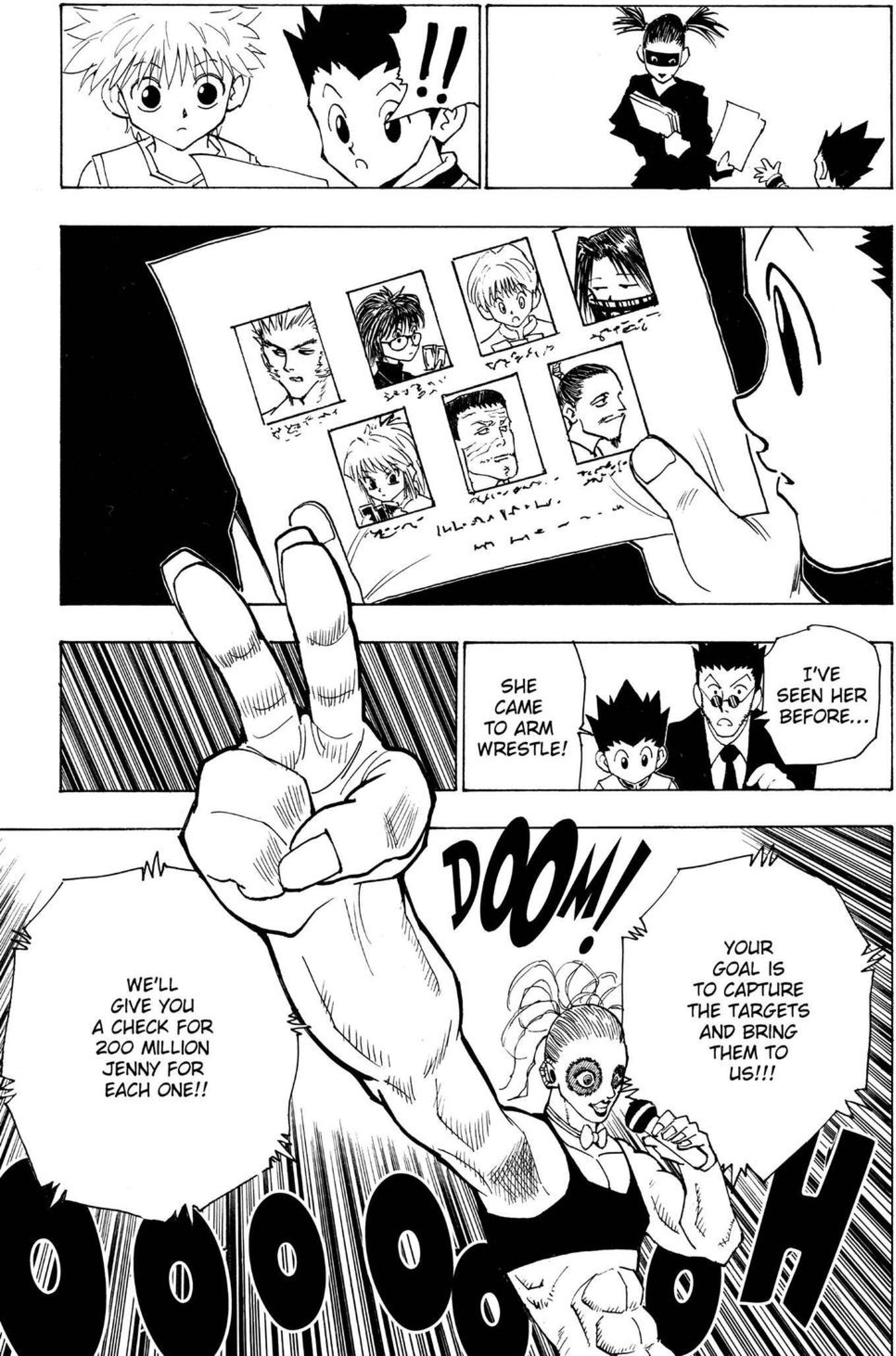

TAKE THE ELEVATOR ALL THE WAY DOWN.
IT'S ABOUT TO START.

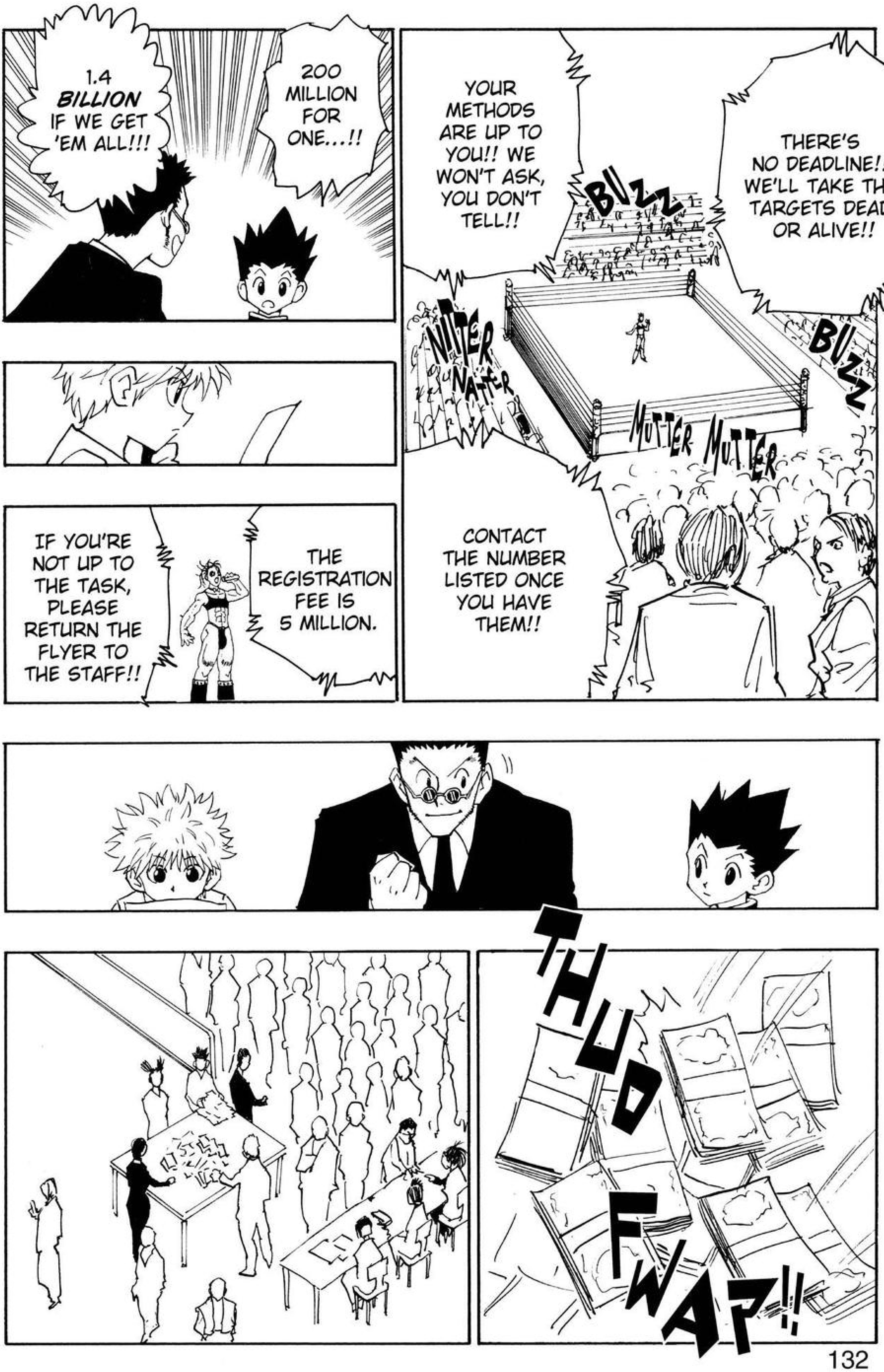
READ THIS WAY

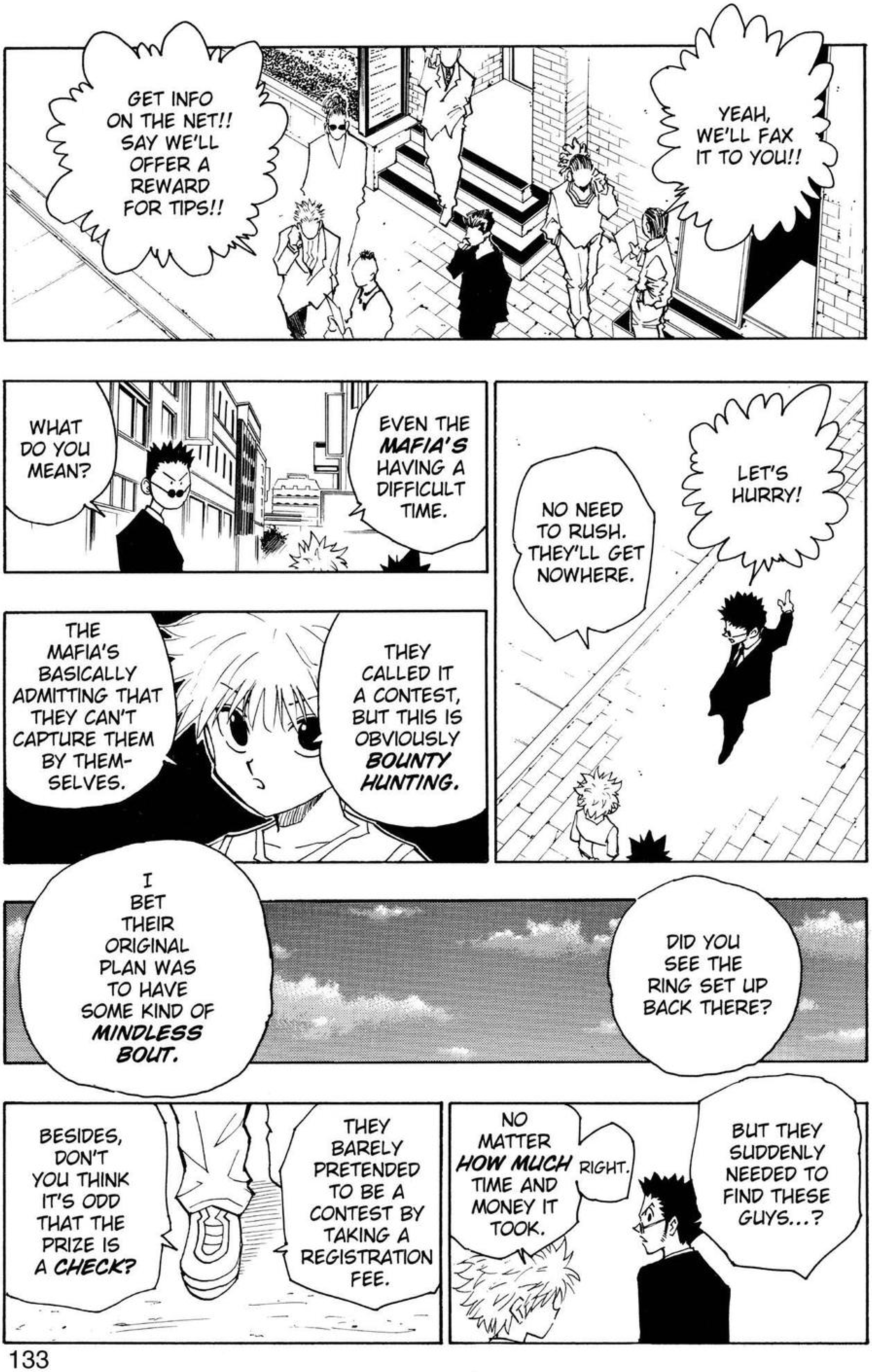

KREEK
NATTER
NATTER
BUZZ
BUZZ
MURMUR
MURMUR
MURMUR
THIS CROWD WANTS *BLOOD!*

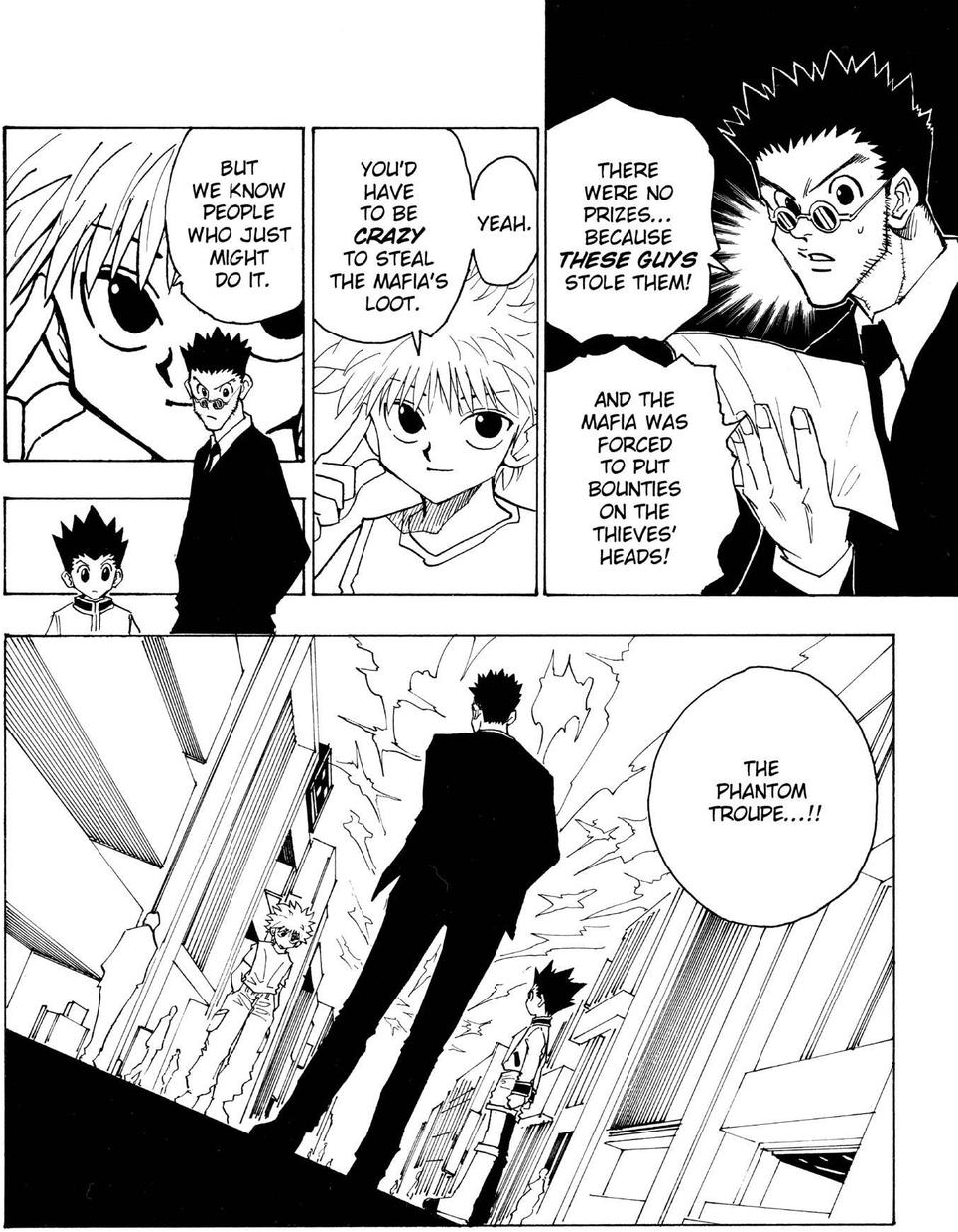

BLIP
5:00
FLASH
WELCOME, EVERYONE!!
I'D LIKE TO GET THIS CONDITIONAL AUCTION STARTED!!
THE NAME OF THE GAME...
...IS HIDE AND SEEK!!!
HIDE AND SEEK?!
CHECK OUT THE PICTURES WE'VE HANDED OUT!!
YOUR TARGETS ARE THOSE SEVEN GUYS AND GALS!!

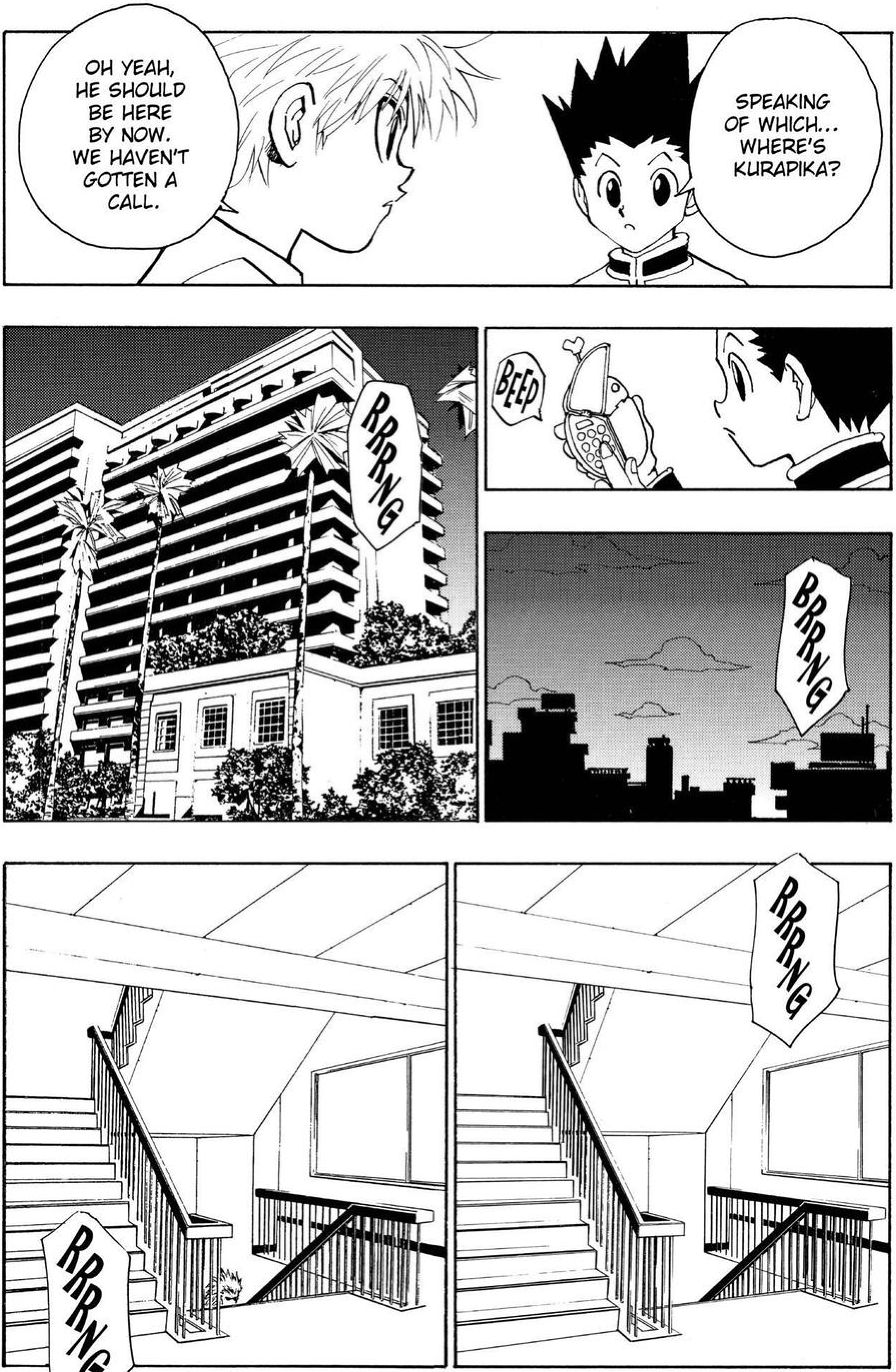
READ THIS WAY

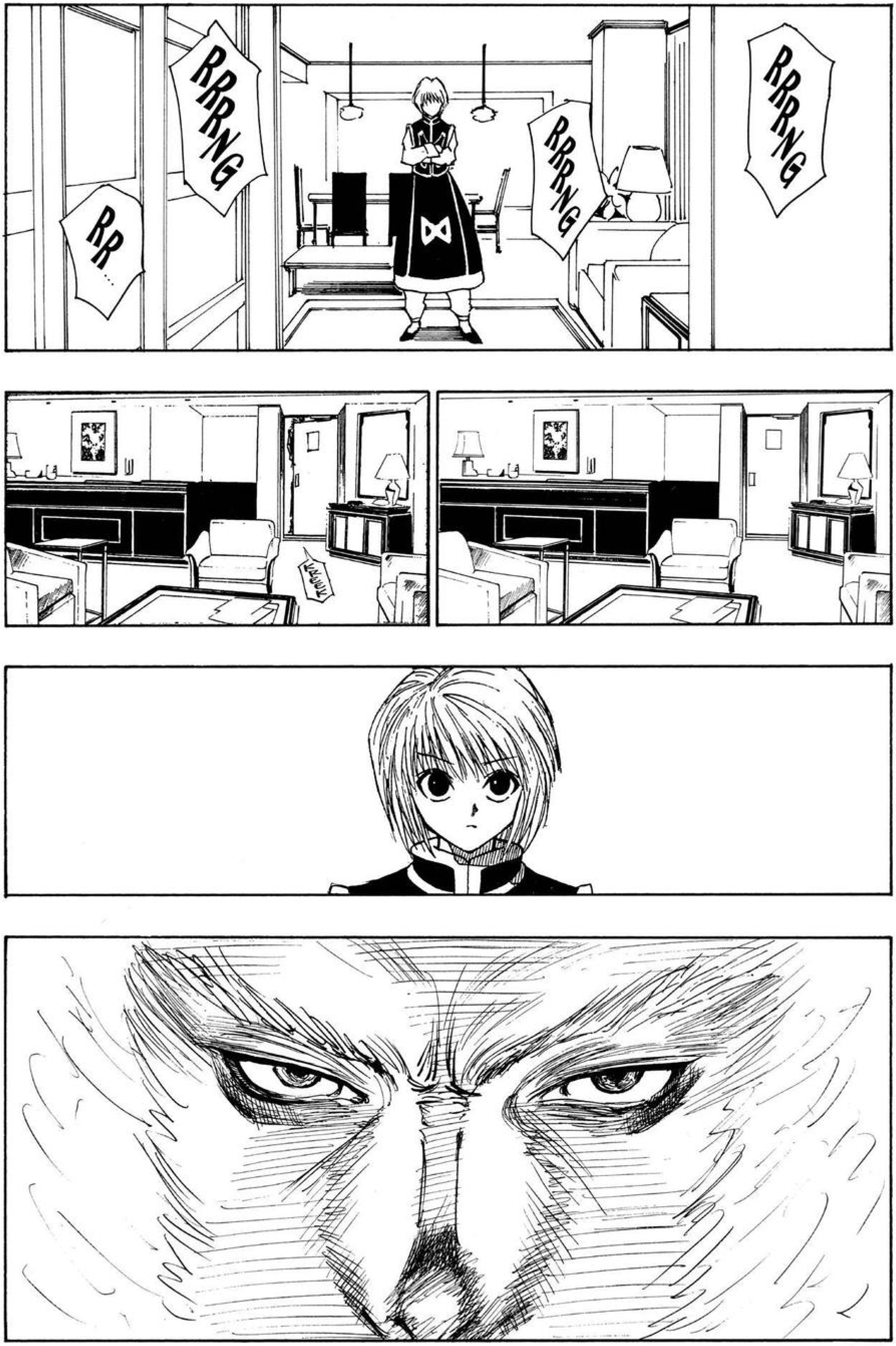

!!
I'VE SEEN HER BEFORE...
SHE CAME TO ARM WRESTLE!
DOOM!
YOUR GOAL IS TO CAPTURE THE TARGETS AND BRING THEM TO US!!!
WE'LL GIVE YOU A CHECK FOR 200 MILLION JENNY FOR EACH ONE!!
OOOOOOOOH

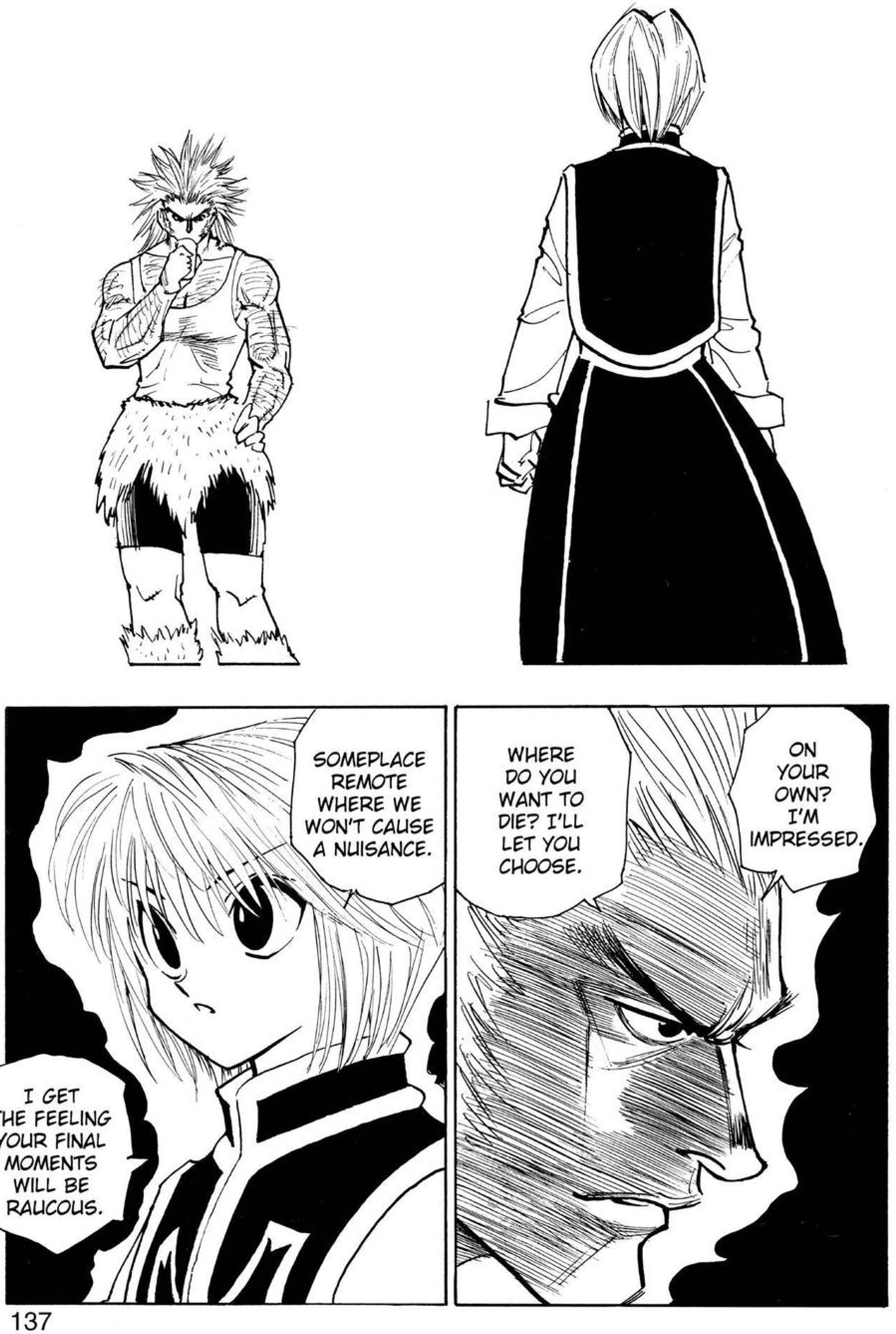

THERE'S NO DEADLINE!! WE'LL TAKE THE TARGETS DEAD OR ALIVE!!
YOUR METHODS ARE UP TO YOU!! WE WON'T ASK, YOU DON'T TELL!!
BUZZ
BUZZ
MUTTER MUTTER
MUTTER MUTTER
CONTACT THE NUMBER LISTED ONCE YOU HAVE THEM!!
200 MILLION FOR ONE...!!
1.4 **BILLION** IF WE GET 'EM ALL!!!
THE REGISTRATION FEE IS 5 MILLION.
IF YOU'RE NOT UP TO THE TASK, PLEASE RETURN THE FLYER TO THE STAFF!!
THUD
FWAP!!

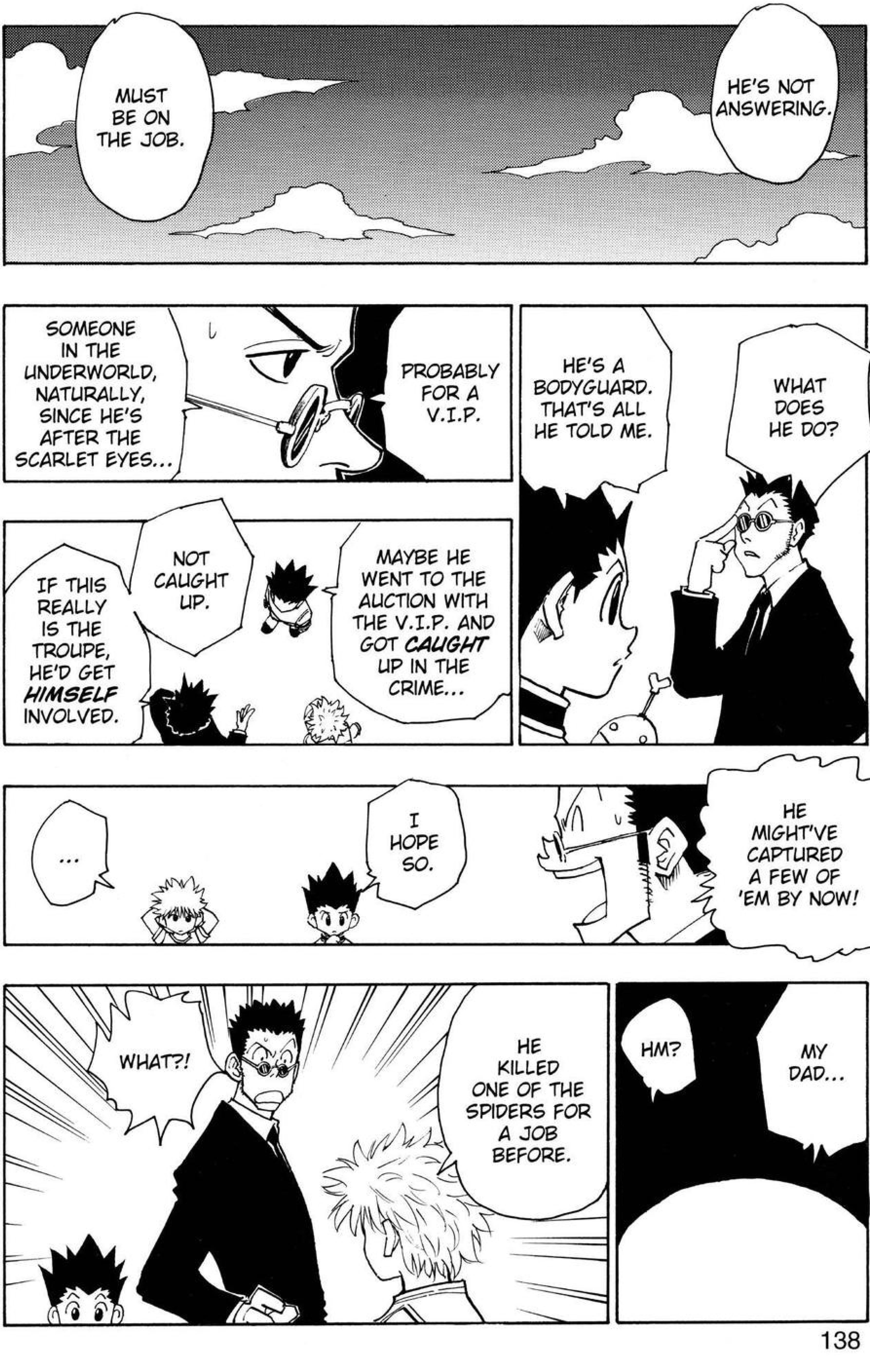

GET INFO ON THE NET!! SAY WE'LL OFFER A REWARD FOR TIPS!!
YEAH, WE'LL FAX IT TO YOU!!
EVEN THE *MAFIA'S* HAVING A DIFFICULT TIME.
WHAT DO YOU MEAN?
THE MAFIA'S BASICALLY ADMITTING THAT THEY CAN'T CAPTURE THEM BY THEMSELVES.
THEY CALLED IT A CONTEST, BUT THIS IS OBVIOUSLY *BOUNTY HUNTING.*
LET'S HURRY!
NO NEED TO RUSH. THEY'LL GET NOWHERE.
DID YOU SEE THE RING SET UP BACK THERE?
I BET THEIR ORIGINAL PLAN WAS TO HAVE SOME KIND OF *MINDLESS BOUT.*
THEY BARELY PRETENDED TO BE A CONTEST BY TAKING A REGISTRATION FEE.
BESIDES, DON'T YOU THINK IT'S ODD THAT THE PRIZE IS A *CHECK?*
BUT THEY SUDDENLY NEEDED TO FIND THESE GUYS...?
RIGHT.
NO MATTER *HOW MUCH* TIME AND MONEY IT TOOK.

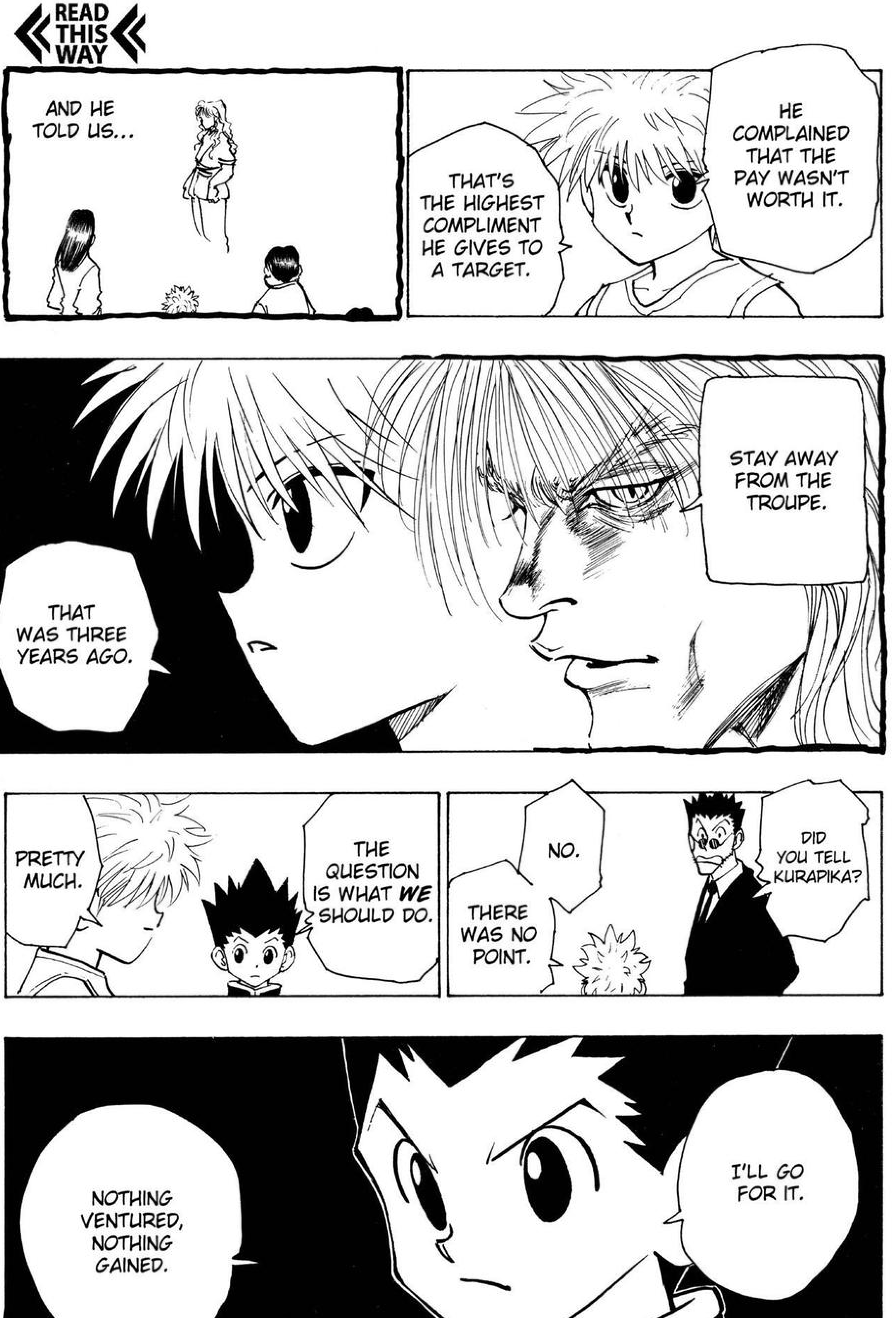

THERE WERE NO PRIZES... BECAUSE *THESE GUYS* STOLE THEM!
AND THE MAFIA WAS FORCED TO PUT BOUNTIES ON THE THIEVES' HEADS!
YOU'D HAVE TO BE *CRAZY* TO STEAL THE MAFIA'S LOOT.
YEAH.
BUT WE KNOW PEOPLE WHO JUST MIGHT DO IT.
THE PHANTOM TROUPE...!!


SPEAKING OF WHICH... WHERE'S KURAPIKA?
OH YEAH, HE SHOULD BE HERE BY NOW. WE HAVEN'T GOTTEN A CALL.
BEEP
RRRNG
BRRRNG
RRRNG
RRRNG


RRRNG
RRRNG
RRRNG
RR…
KLICK

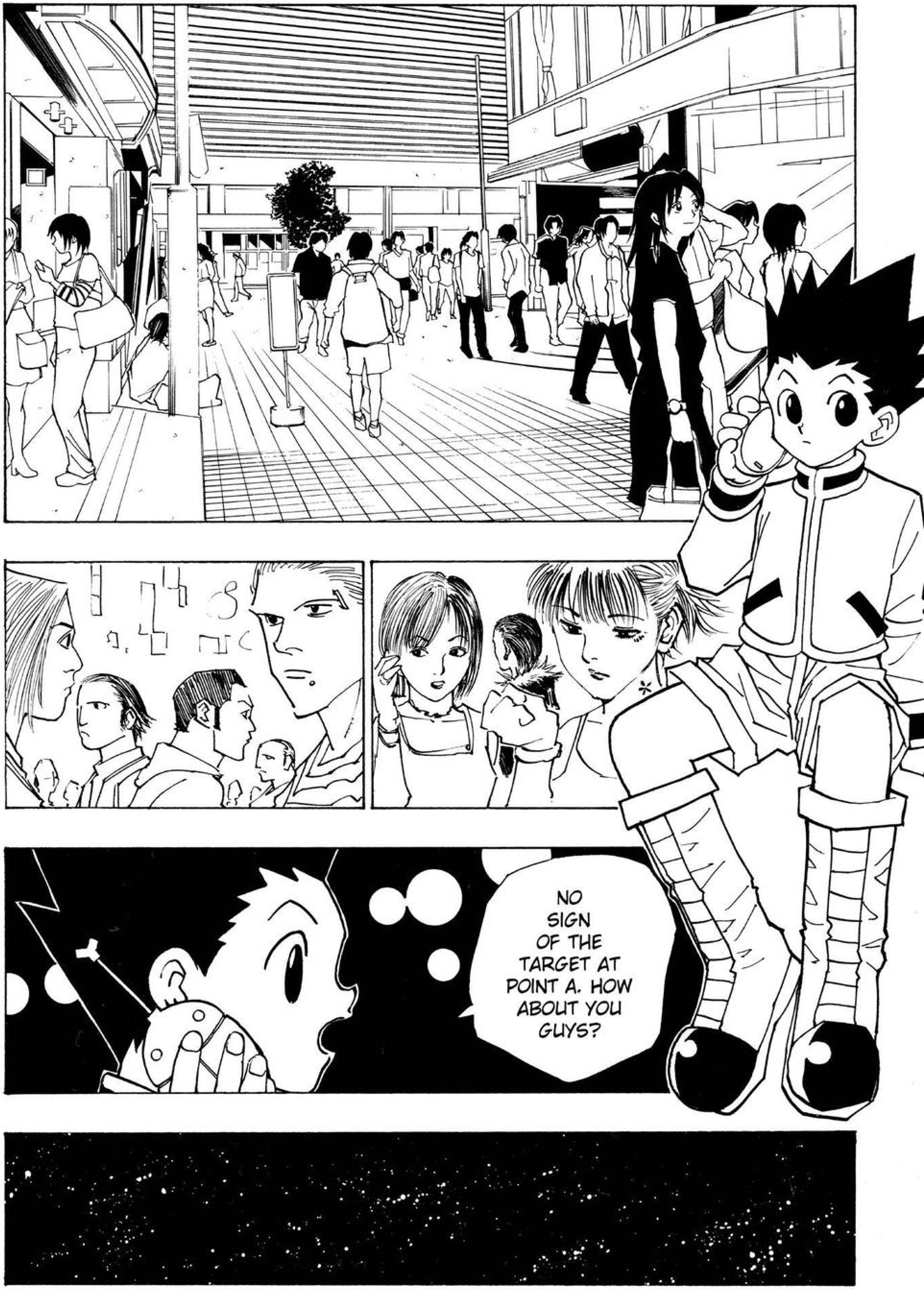

ON YOUR OWN? I'M IMPRESSED.
WHERE DO YOU WANT TO DIE? I'LL LET YOU CHOOSE.
SOMEPLACE REMOTE WHERE WE WON'T CAUSE A NUISANCE.
I GET THE FEELING YOUR FINAL MOMENTS WILL BE RAUCOUS.


HE'S NOT ANSWERING.
MUST BE ON THE JOB.
WHAT DOES HE DO?
HE'S A BODYGUARD. THAT'S ALL HE TOLD ME.
PROBABLY FOR A V.I.P.
SOMEONE IN THE UNDERWORLD, NATURALLY, SINCE HE'S AFTER THE SCARLET EYES...
MAYBE HE WENT TO THE AUCTION WITH THE V.I.P. AND GOT ***CAUGHT*** UP IN THE CRIME...
NOT CAUGHT UP.
IF THIS REALLY IS THE TROUPE, HE'D GET ***HIMSELF*** INVOLVED.
HE MIGHT'VE CAPTURED A FEW OF 'EM BY NOW!
I HOPE SO.
...
MY DAD...
HM?
HE KILLED ONE OF THE SPIDERS FOR A JOB BEFORE.
WHAT?!


READ THIS WAY
HE COMPLAINED THAT THE PAY WASN'T WORTH IT.
THAT'S THE HIGHEST COMPLIMENT HE GIVES TO A TARGET.
AND HE TOLD US...
STAY AWAY FROM THE TROUPE.
THAT WAS THREE YEARS AGO.
DID YOU TELL KURAPIKA?
NO.
THERE WAS NO POINT.
THE QUESTION IS WHAT *WE* SHOULD DO.
PRETTY MUCH.
I'LL GO FOR IT.
NOTHING VENTURED, NOTHING GAINED.

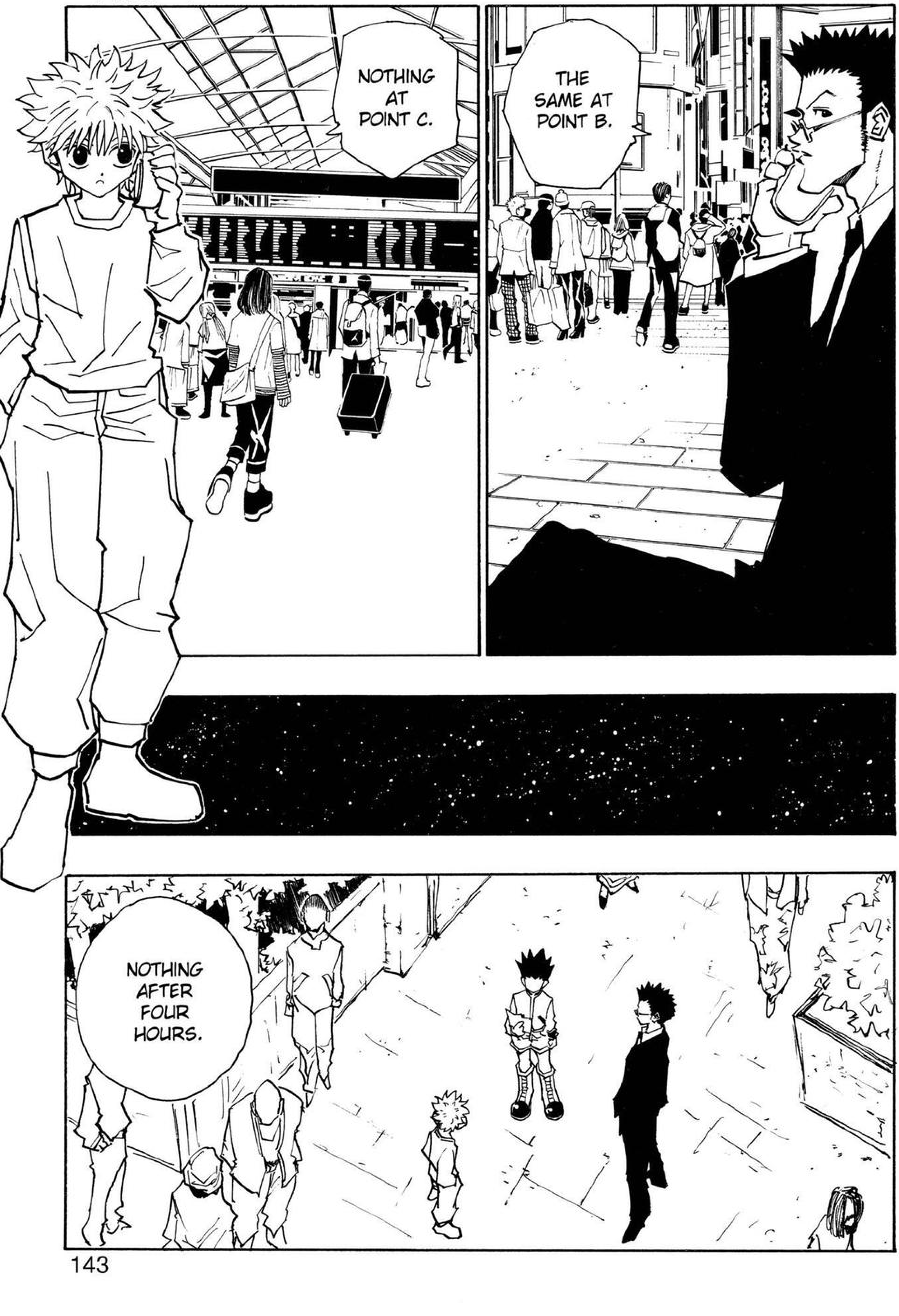
Chapter 81

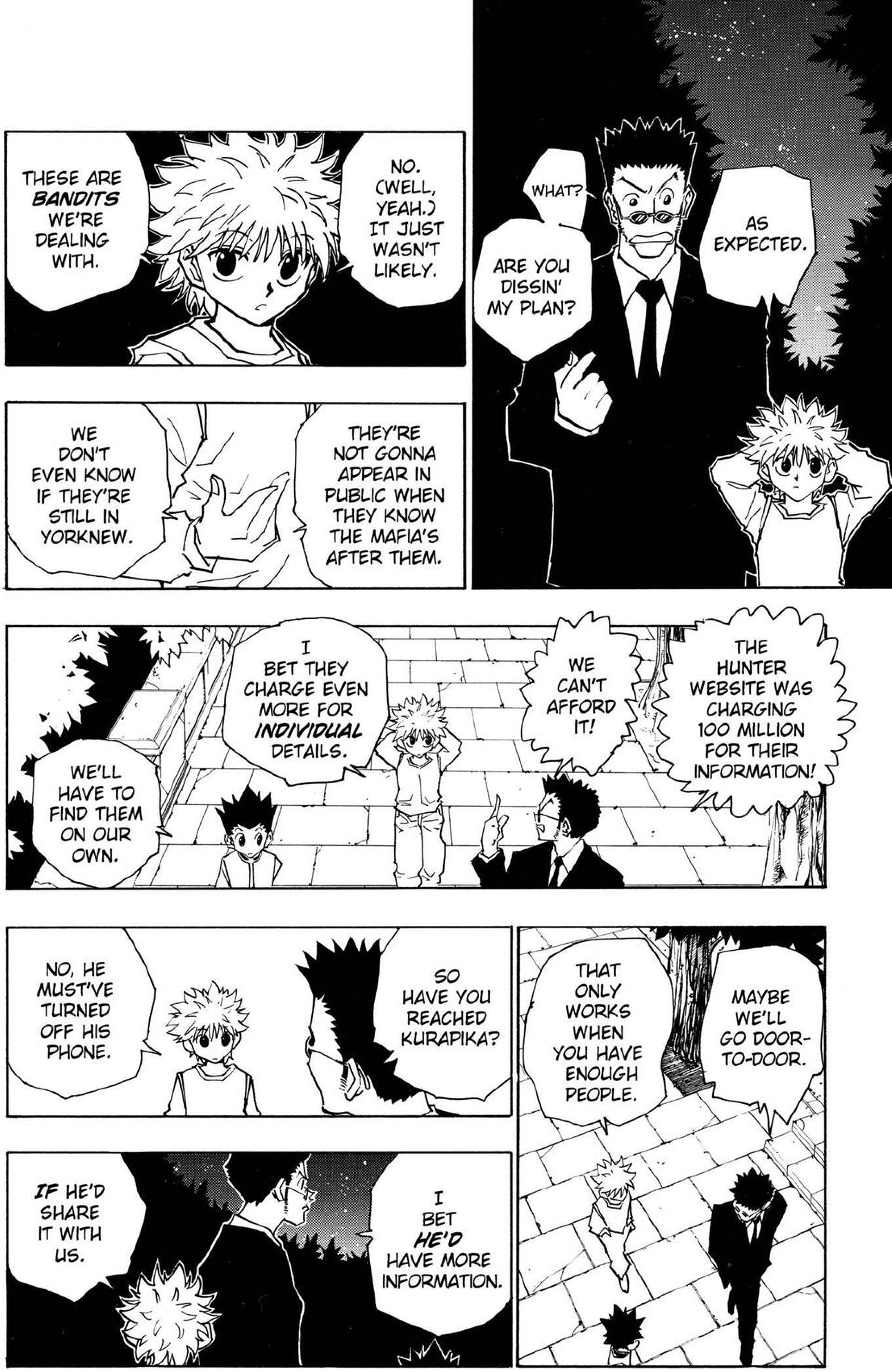
September 2nd: Part 3



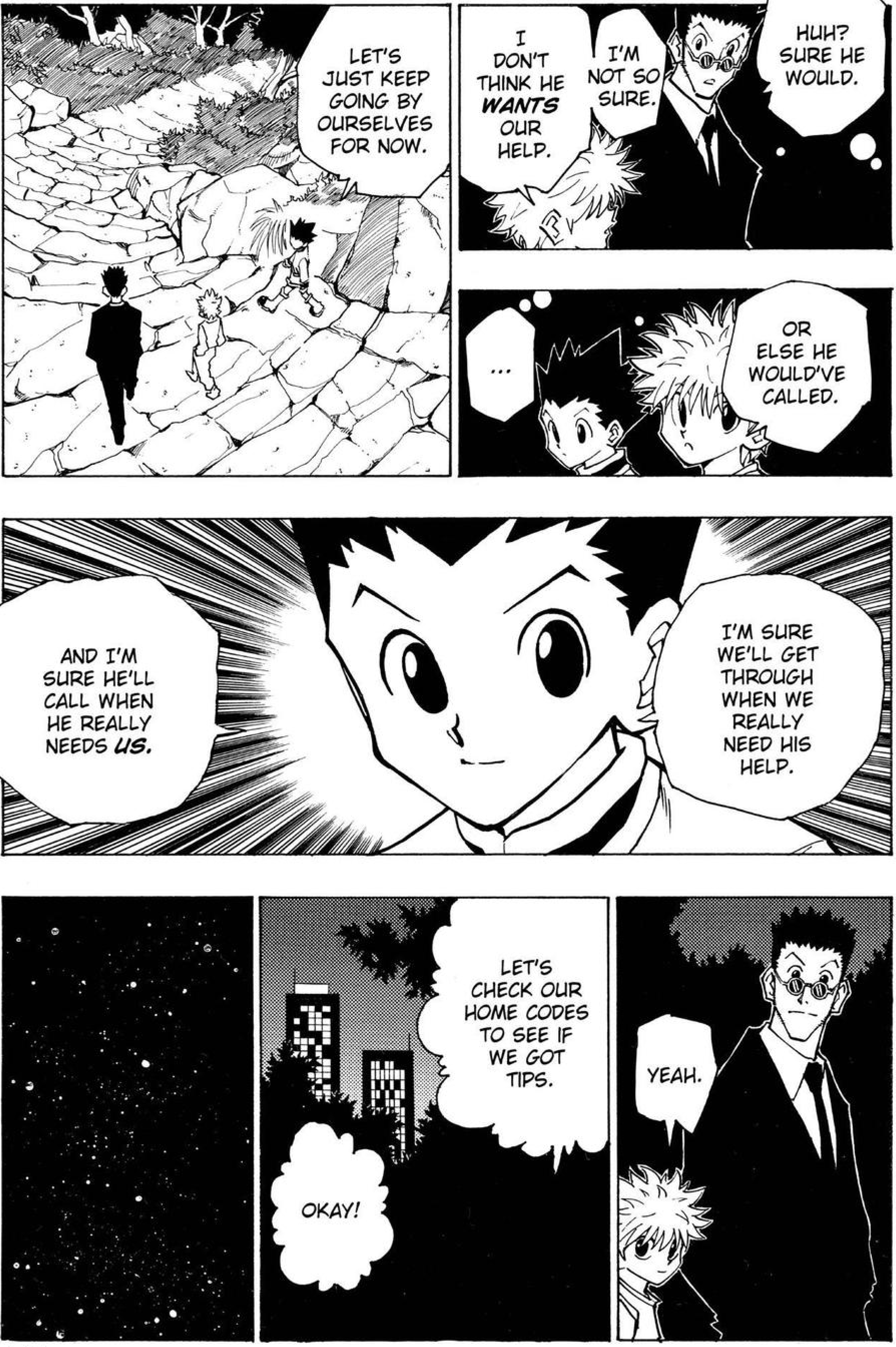
NO SIGN OF THE TARGET AT POINT A. HOW ABOUT YOU GUYS?

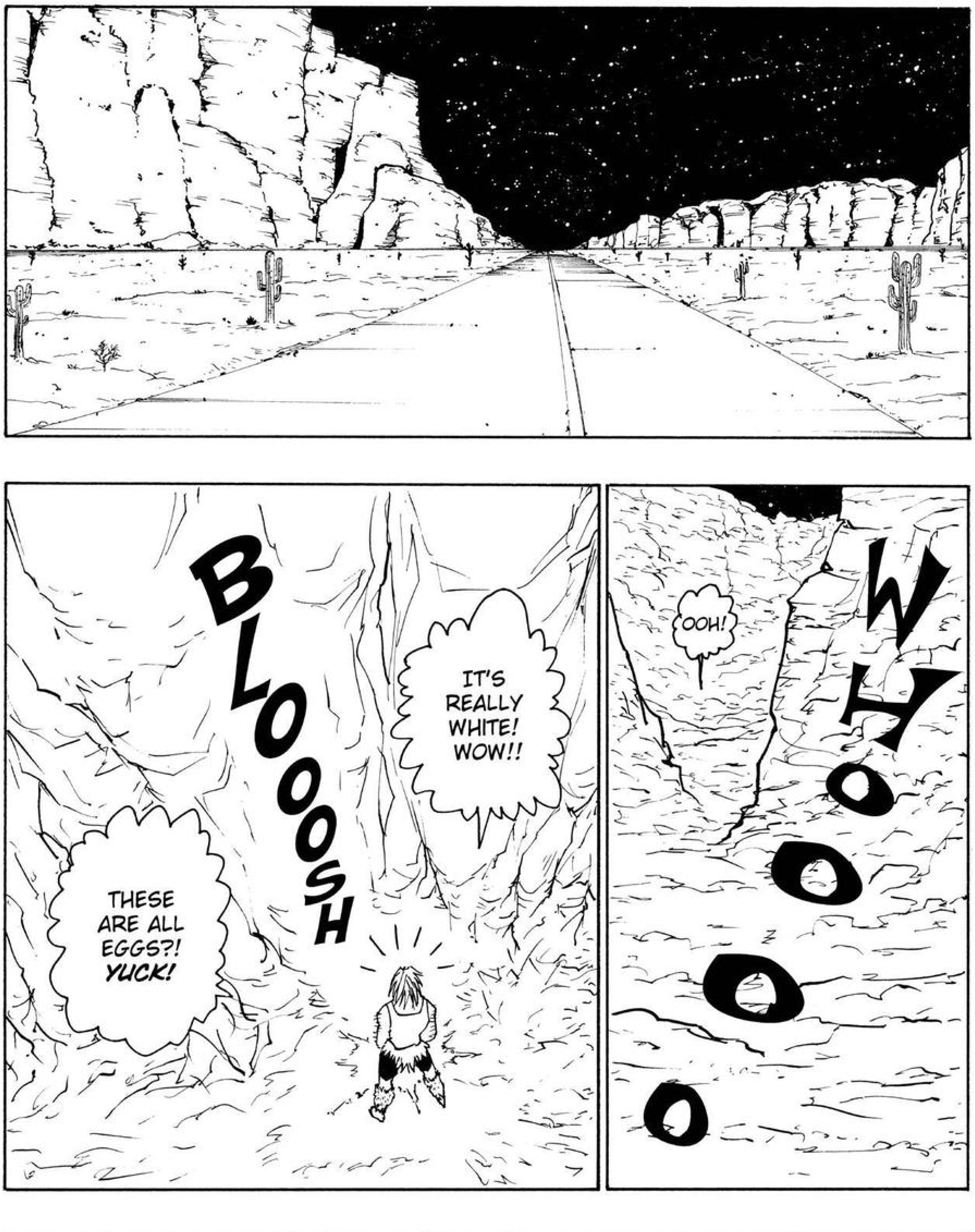
READ THIS WAY

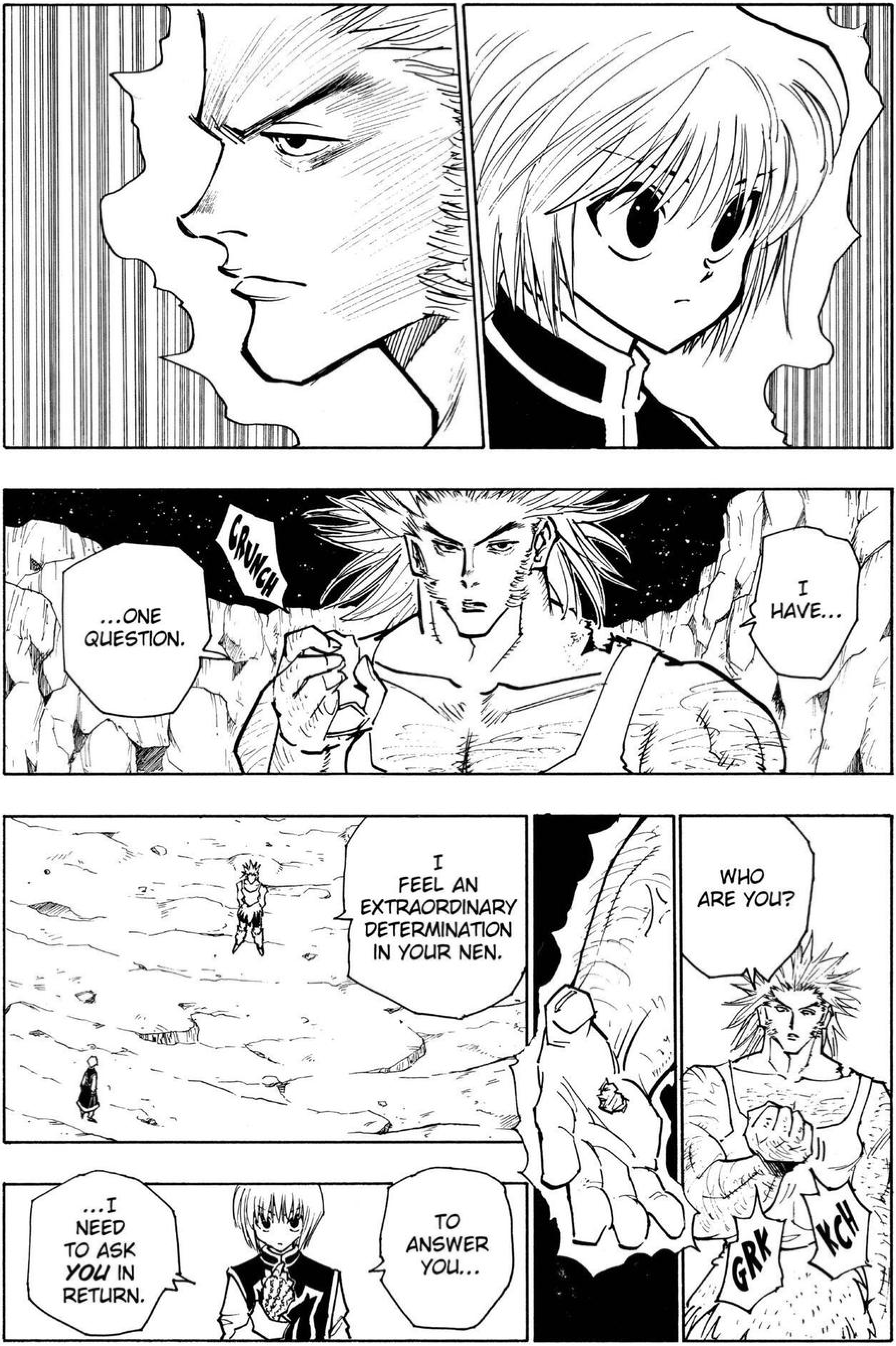

THE SAME AT POINT B.
NOTHING AT POINT C.
NOTHING AFTER FOUR HOURS.


AS EXPECTED.
WHAT?
ARE YOU DISSIN' MY PLAN?
NO. (WELL, YEAH.) IT JUST WASN'T LIKELY.
THESE ARE ***BANDITS*** WE'RE DEALING WITH.
THEY'RE NOT GONNA APPEAR IN PUBLIC WHEN THEY KNOW THE MAFIA'S AFTER THEM.
WE DON'T EVEN KNOW IF THEY'RE STILL IN YORKNEW.
THE HUNTER WEBSITE WAS CHARGING 100 MILLION FOR THEIR INFORMATION!
WE CAN'T AFFORD IT!
I BET THEY CHARGE EVEN MORE FOR ***INDIVIDUAL*** DETAILS.
WE'LL HAVE TO FIND THEM ON OUR OWN.
MAYBE WE'LL GO DOOR-TO-DOOR.
THAT ONLY WORKS WHEN YOU HAVE ENOUGH PEOPLE.
SO HAVE YOU REACHED KURAPIKA?
NO, HE MUST'VE TURNED OFF HIS PHONE.
I BET ***HE'D*** HAVE MORE INFORMATION.
IF HE'D SHARE IT WITH US.

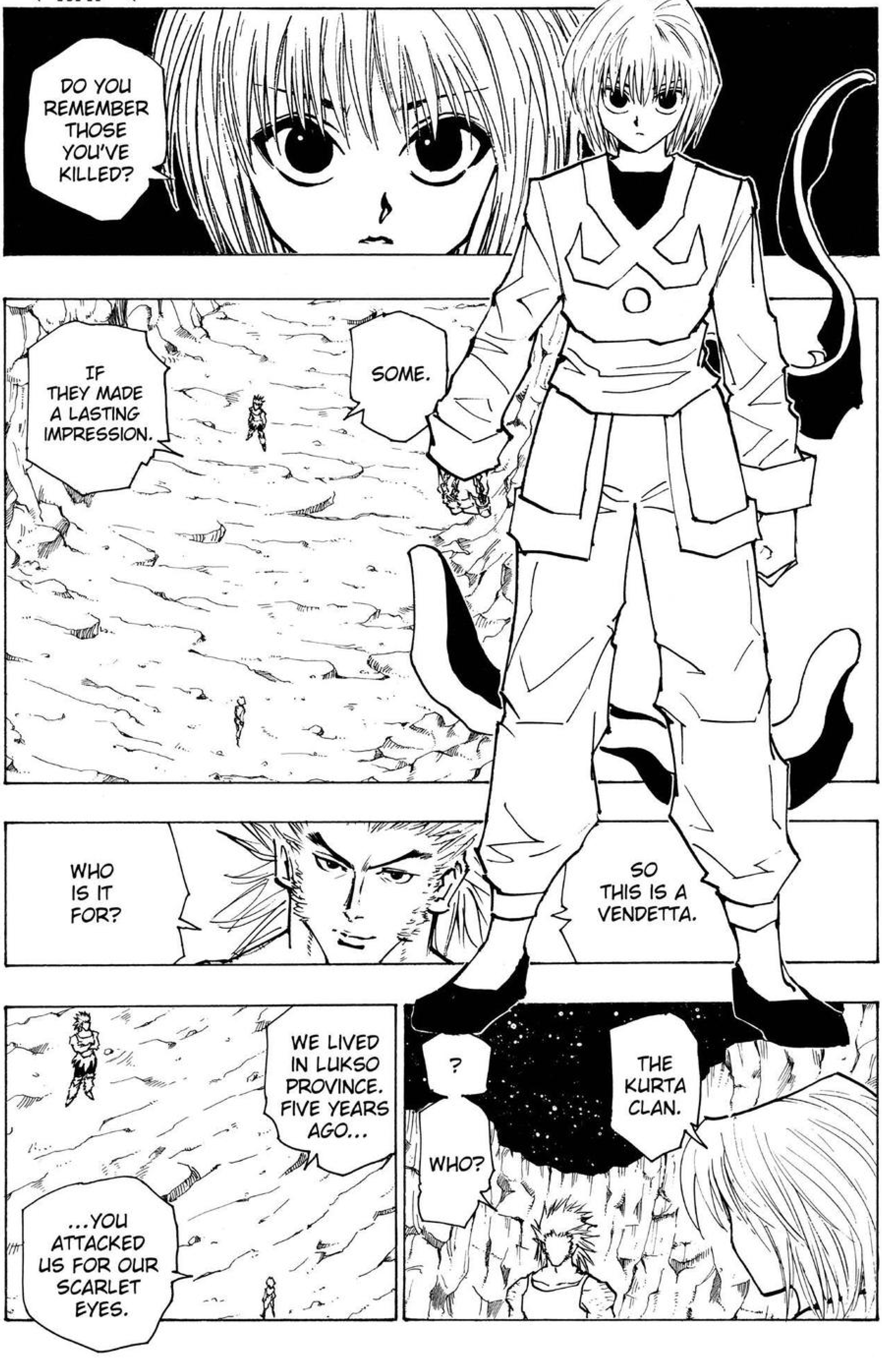
READ THIS WAY

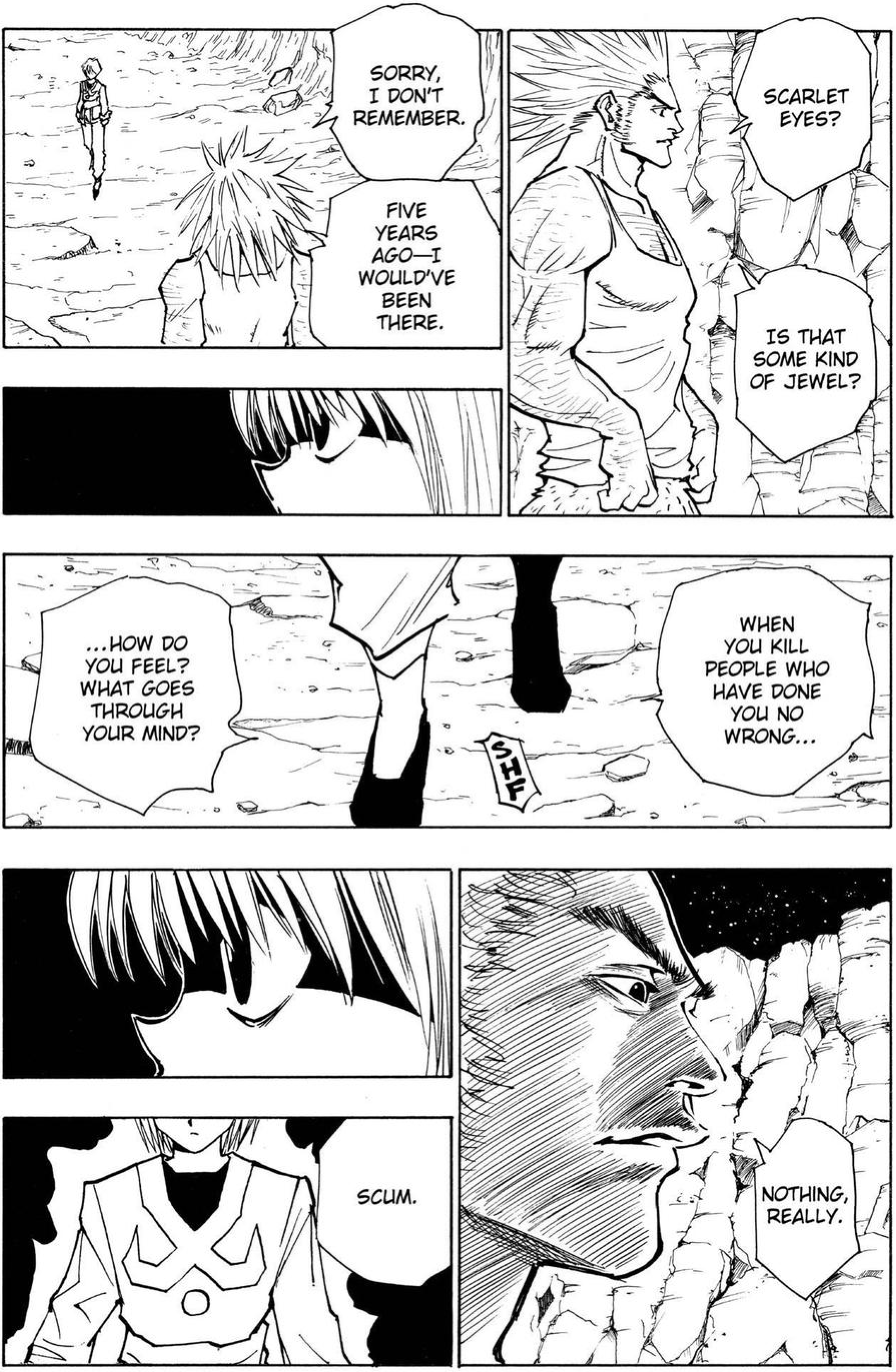

HUH? SURE HE WOULD.
I'M NOT SO SURE.
I DON'T THINK HE *WANTS* OUR HELP.
OR ELSE HE WOULD'VE CALLED.
...
LET'S JUST KEEP GOING BY OURSELVES FOR NOW.
I'M SURE WE'LL GET THROUGH WHEN WE REALLY NEED HIS HELP.
AND I'M SURE HE'LL CALL WHEN HE REALLY NEEDS *US.*
YEAH.
LET'S CHECK OUR HOME CODES TO SEE IF WE GOT TIPS.
OKAY!

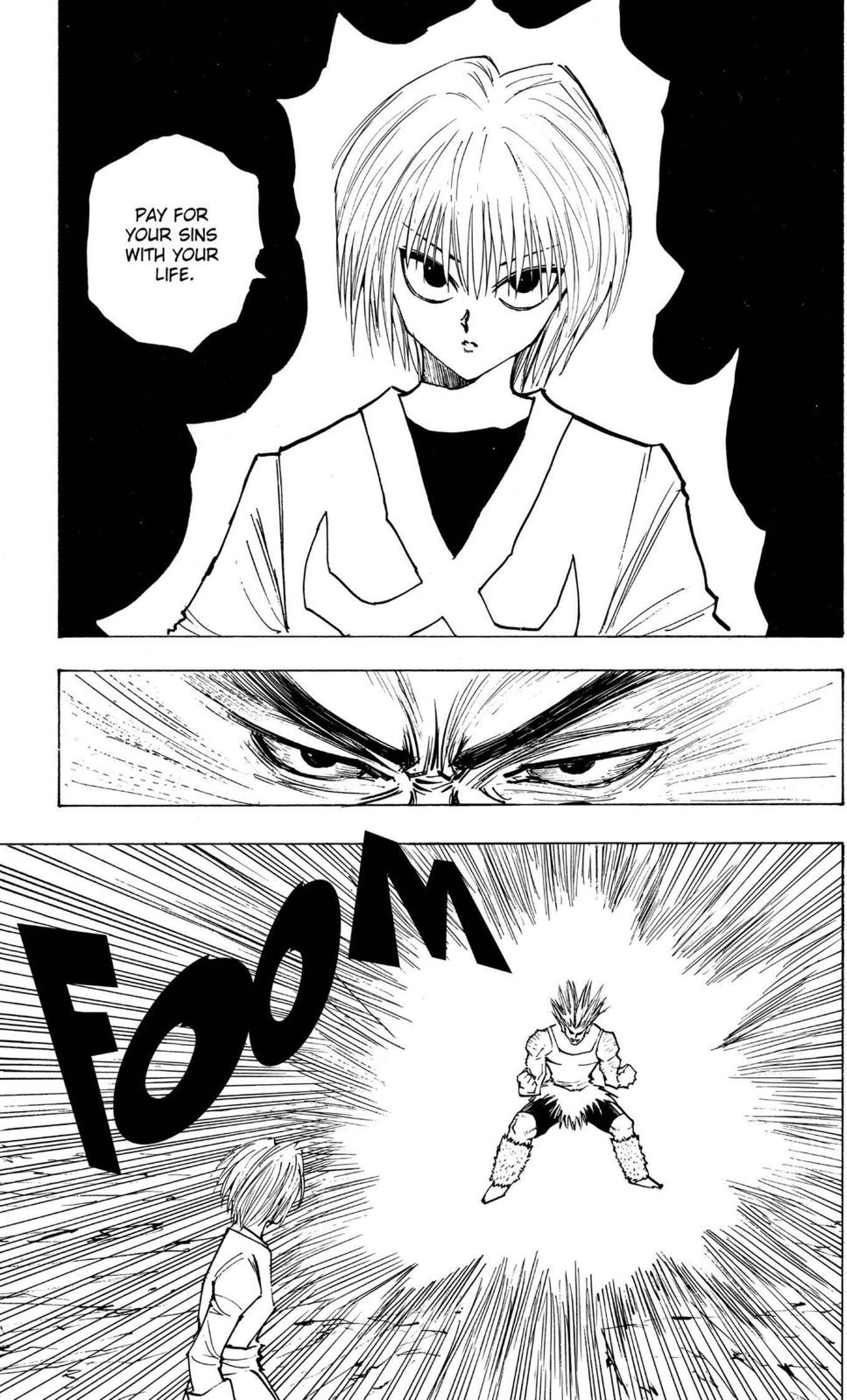

WHOOOOO
OOH!
BLOOOOSH
IT'S REALLY WHITE! WOW!!
THESE ARE ALL EGGS?! *YUCK!*
WHOOOO
SORRY FOR THE HOLDUP.

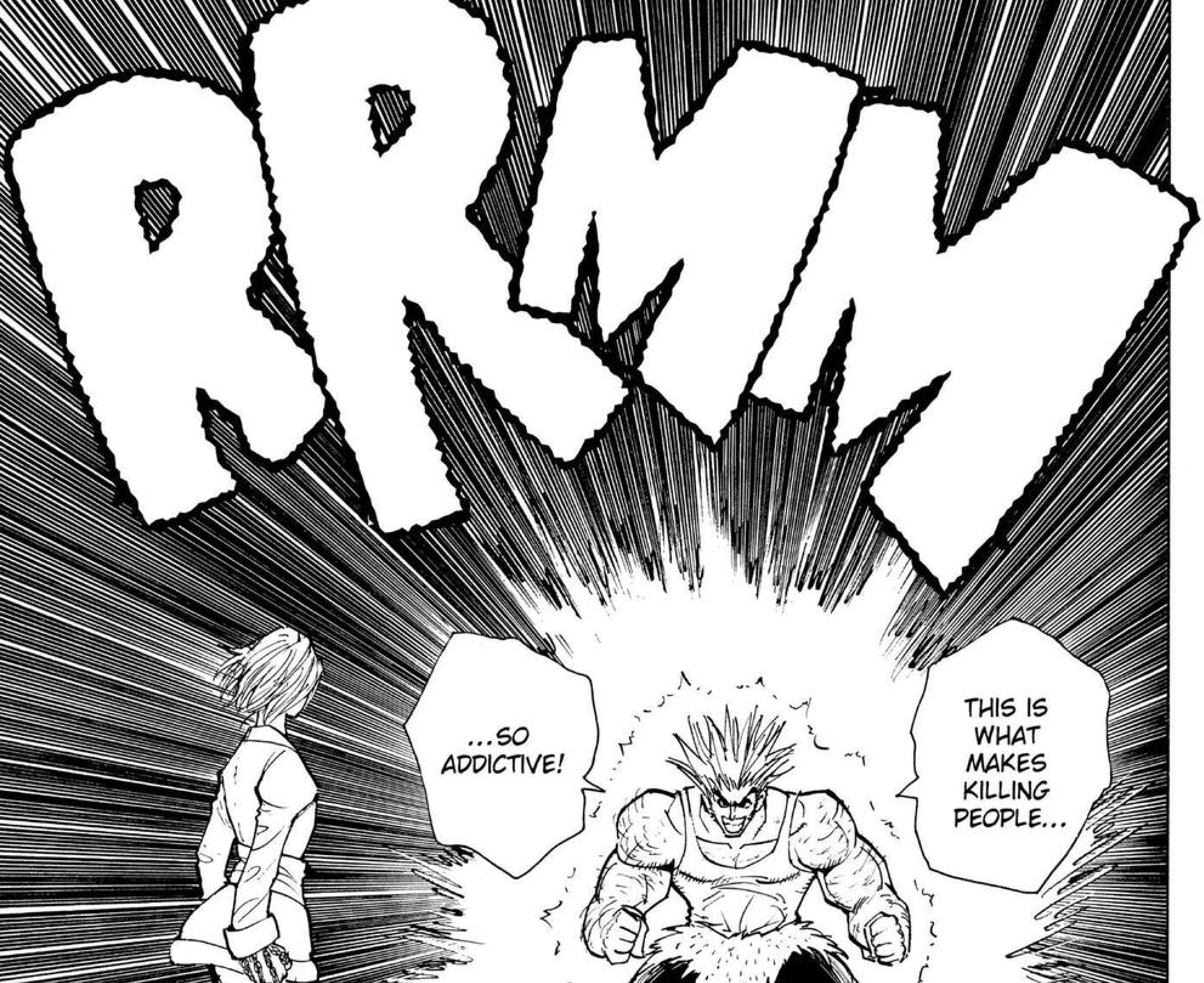

I HAVE...
CRUNCH
...ONE QUESTION.
WHO ARE YOU?
KCH
GRK
I FEEL AN EXTRAORDINARY DETERMINATION IN YOUR NEN.
TO ANSWER YOU...
...I NEED TO ASK *YOU* IN RETURN.

READ THIS WAY

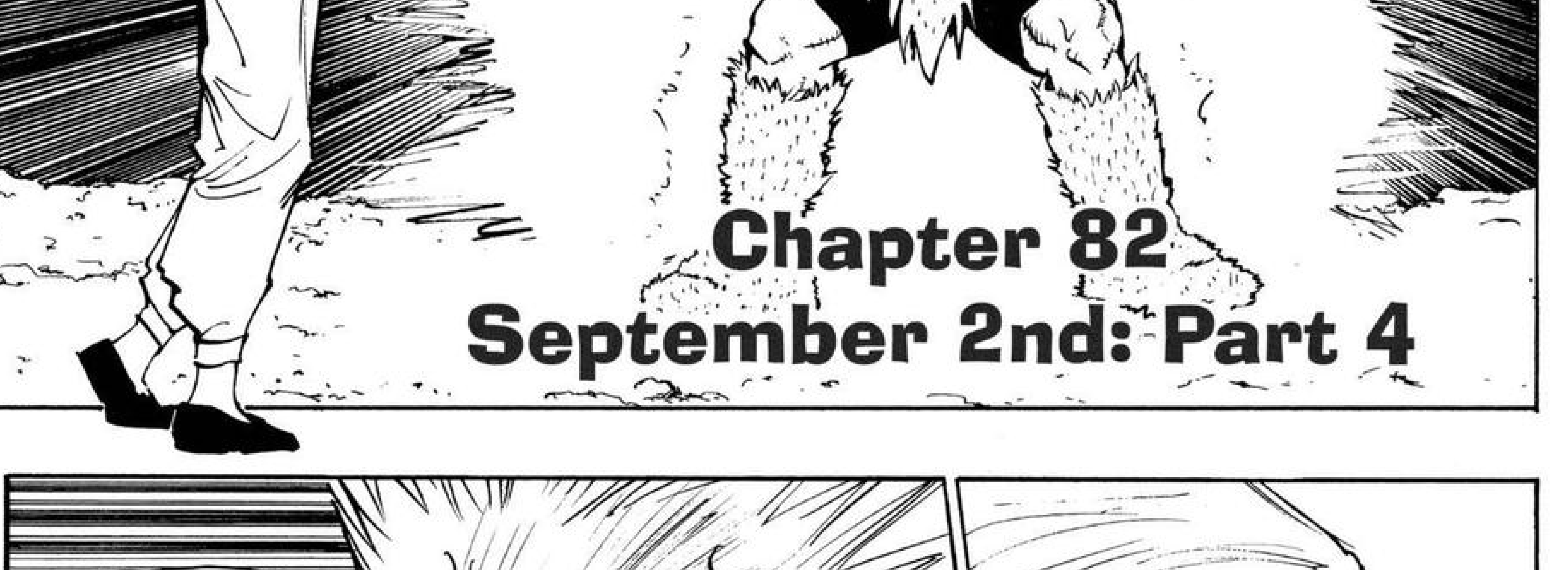

DO YOU REMEMBER THOSE YOU'VE KILLED?
SOME.
IF THEY MADE A LASTING IMPRESSION.
SO THIS IS A VENDETTA.
WHO IS IT FOR?
THE KURTA CLAN.
?
WHO?
WE LIVED IN LUKSO PROVINCE. FIVE YEARS AGO…
…YOU ATTACKED US FOR OUR SCARLET EYES.

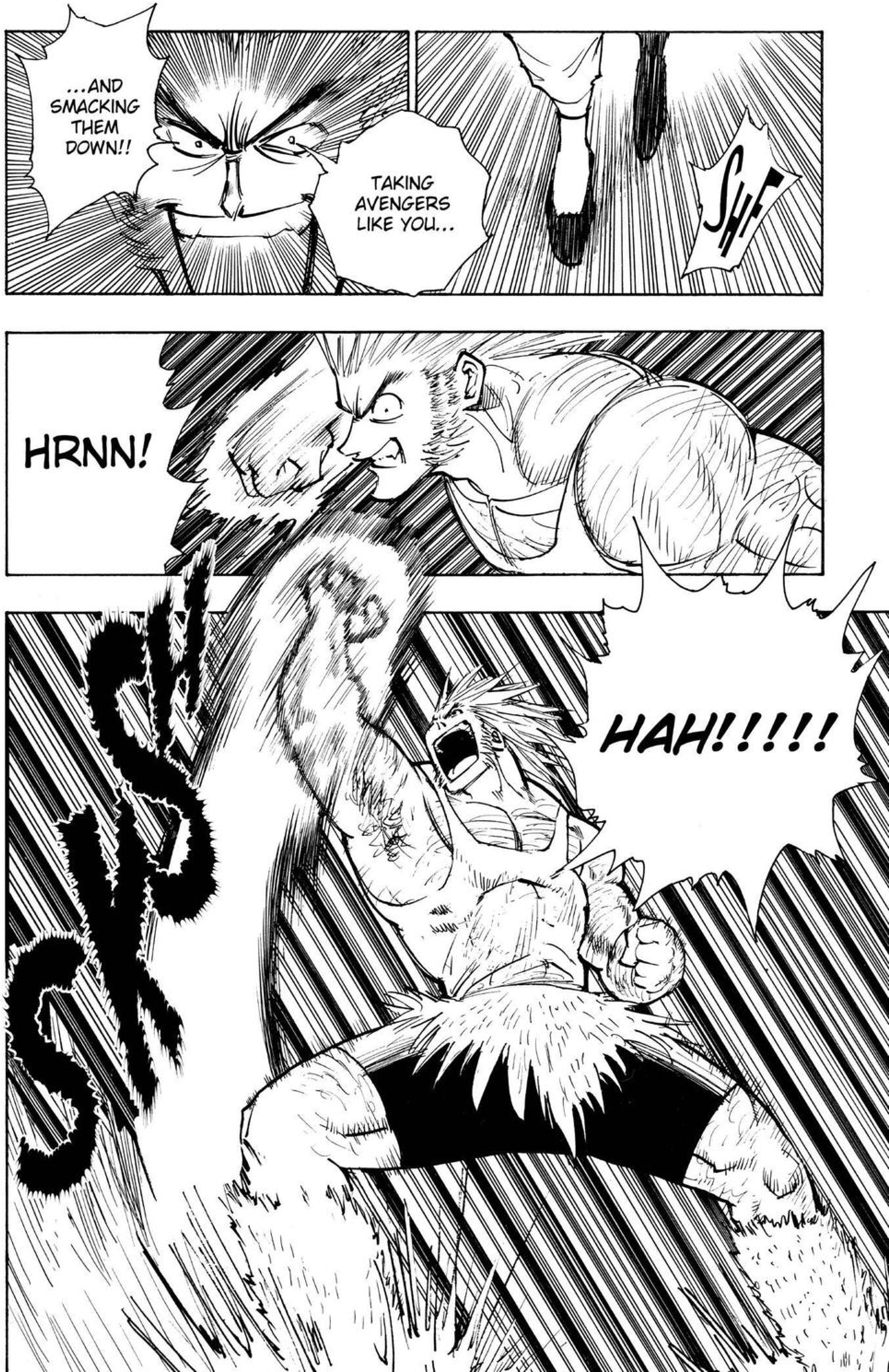

SCARLET EYES?
IS THAT SOME KIND OF JEWEL?
SORRY, I DON'T REMEMBER.
FIVE YEARS AGO—I WOULD'VE BEEN THERE.
WHEN YOU KILL PEOPLE WHO HAVE DONE YOU NO WRONG...
...HOW DO YOU FEEL? WHAT GOES THROUGH YOUR MIND?
SHF
NOTHING, REALLY.
SCUM.

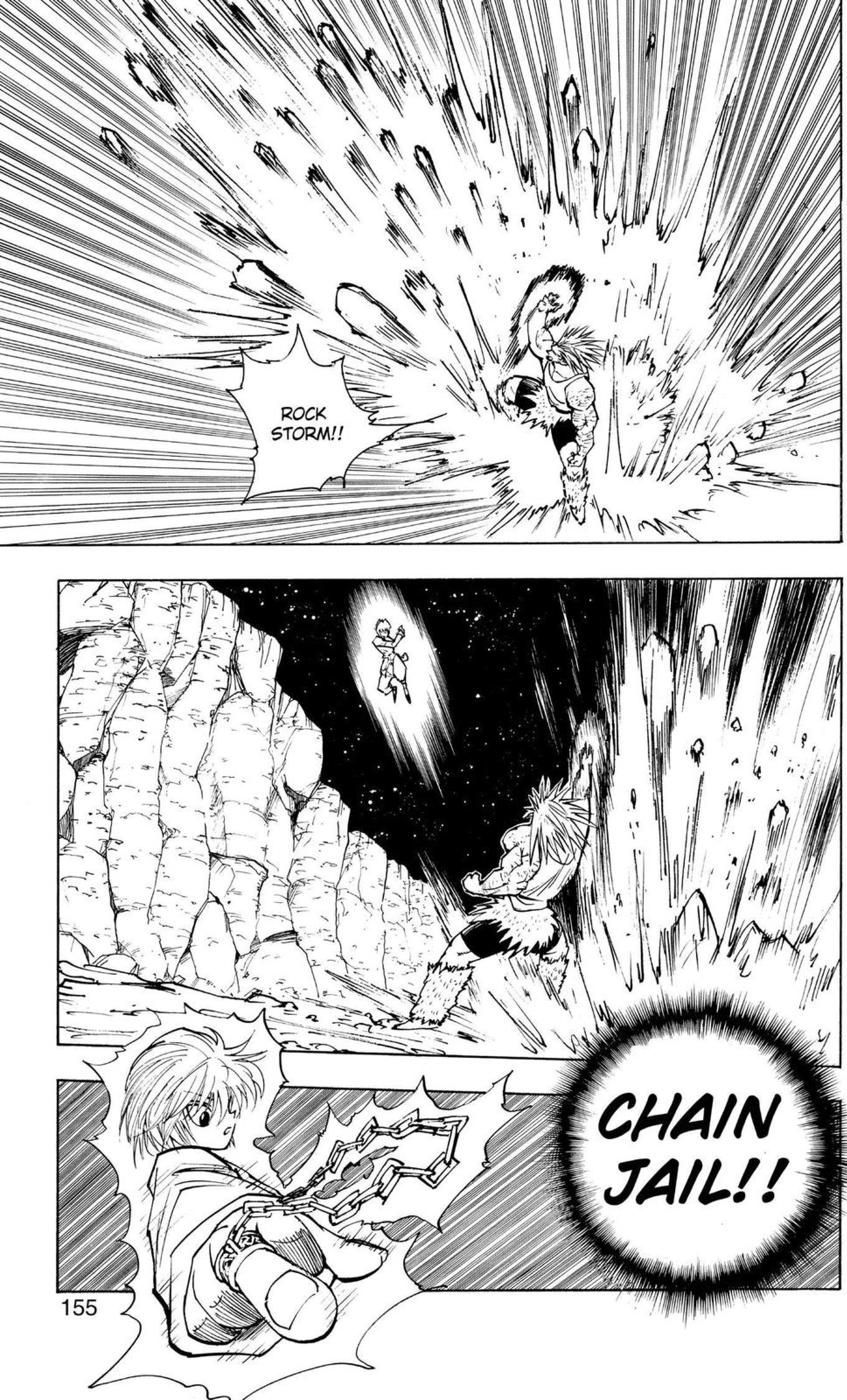

PAY FOR YOUR SINS WITH YOUR LIFE.
FOOM

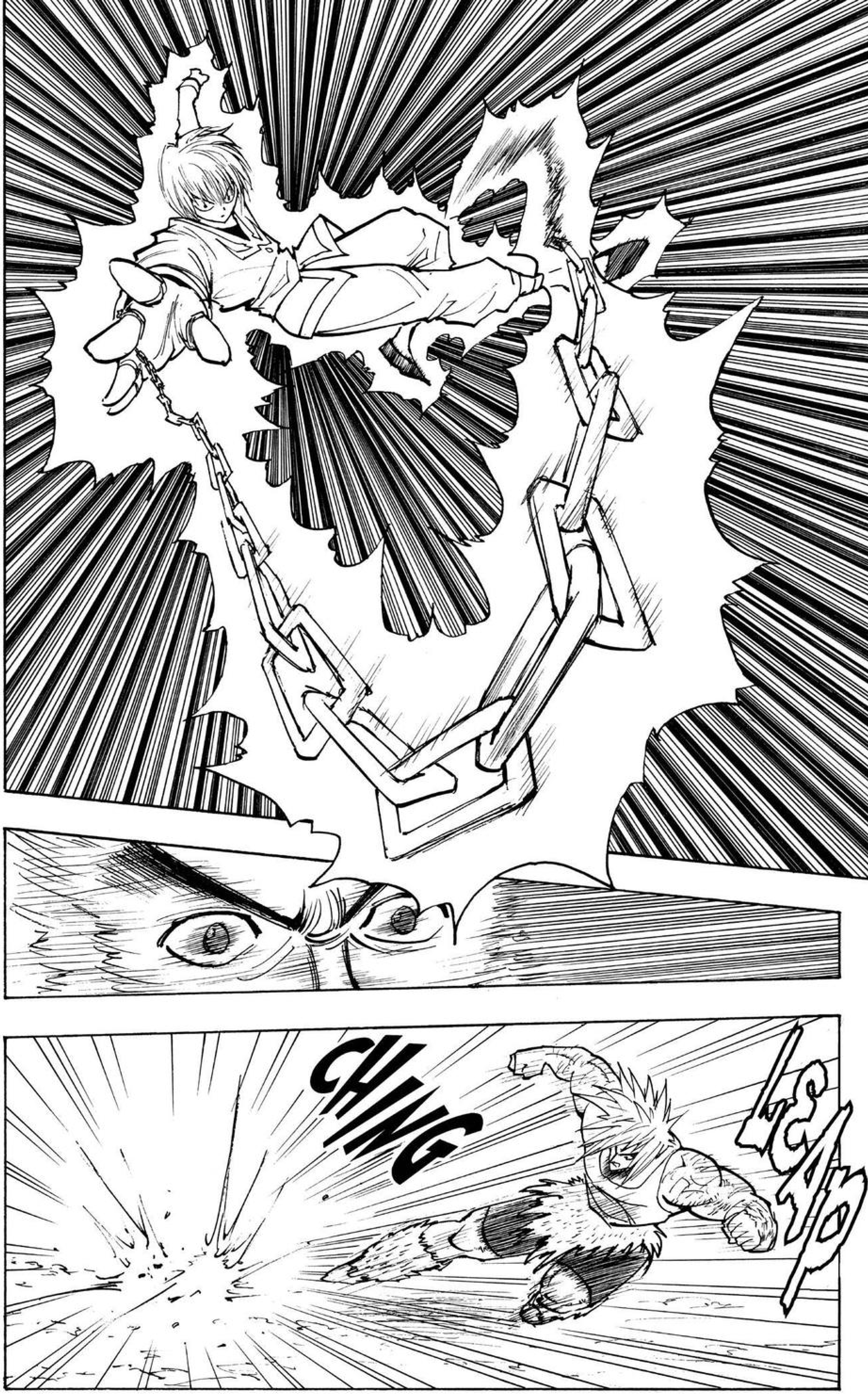

RRMM
THIS IS WHAT MAKES KILLING PEOPLE...
...SO ADDICTIVE!

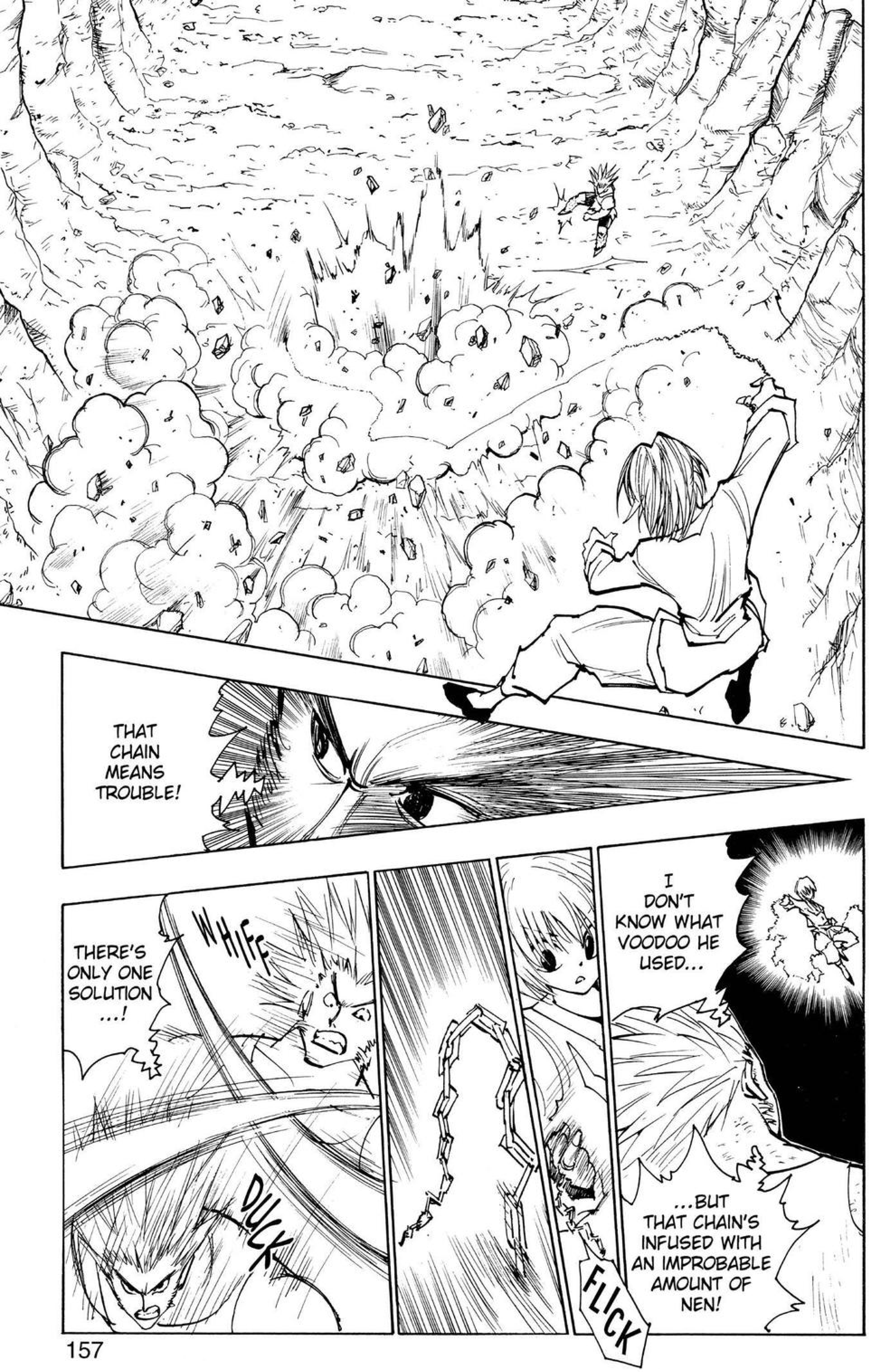
Chapter 82
September 2nd: Part 4

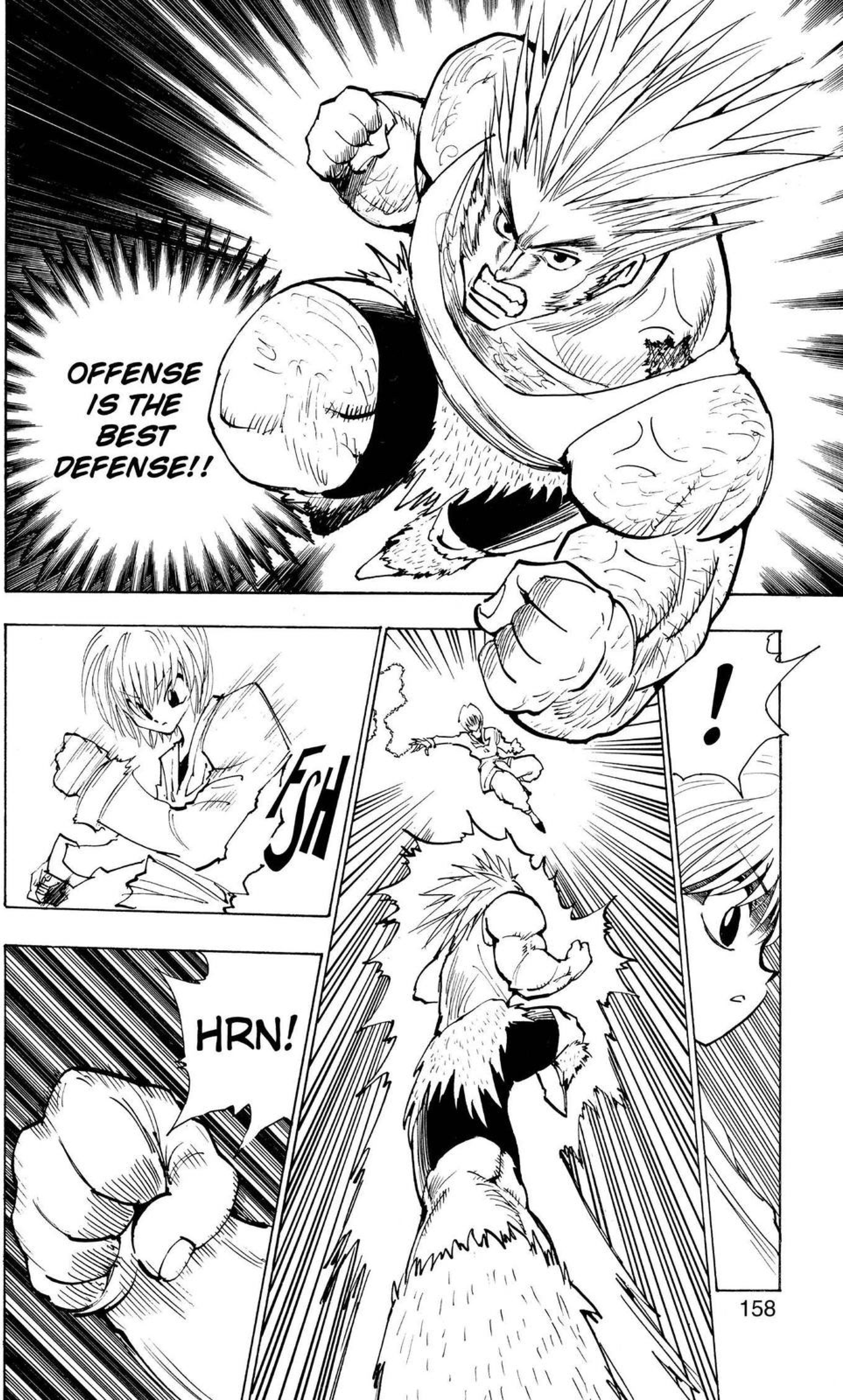

YOU KNOW WHAT GIVES ME THE MOST PLEASURE?

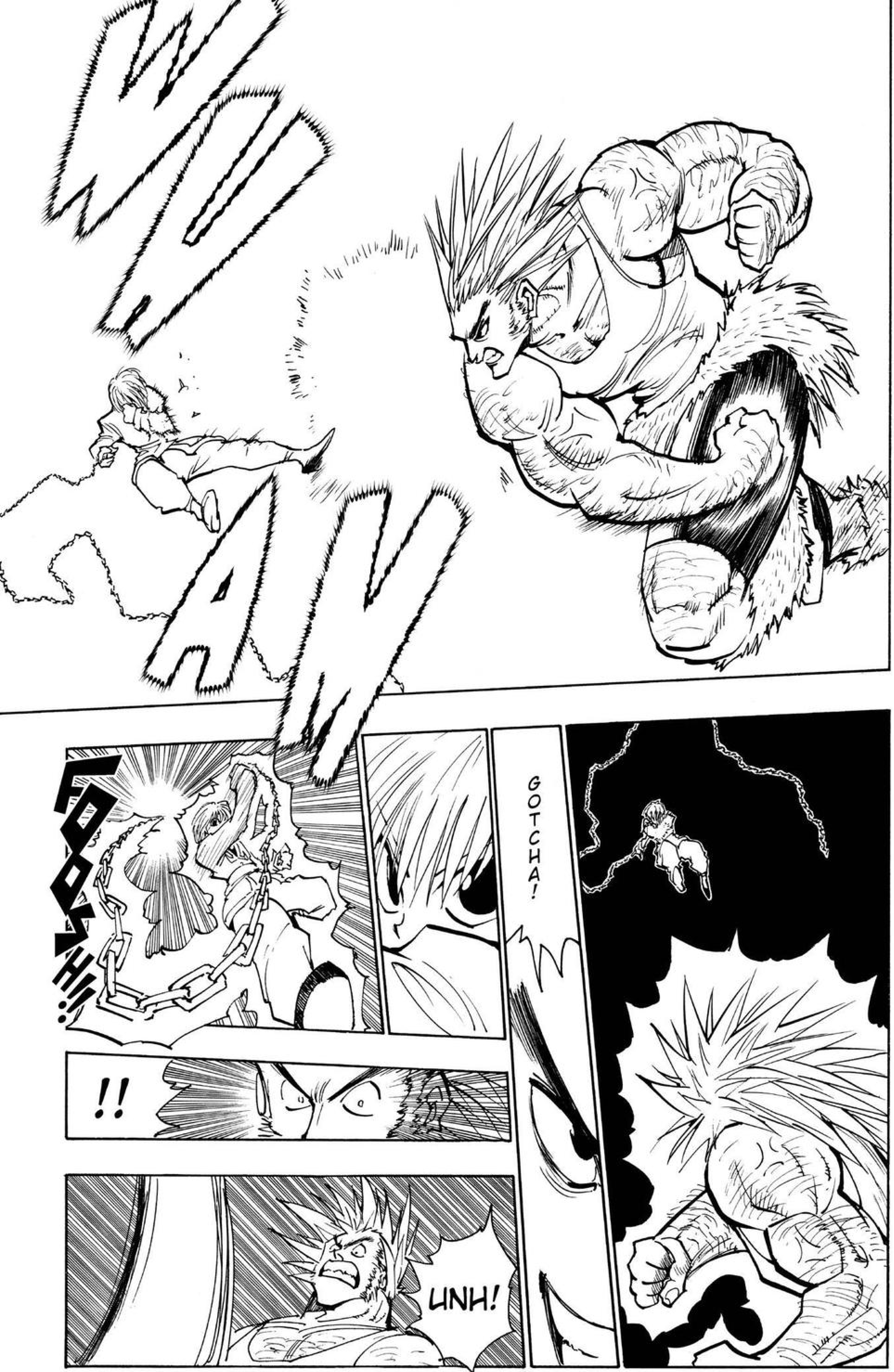

SHF
TAKING AVENGERS LIKE YOU...
...AND SMACKING THEM DOWN!!
HRNN!
HAH!!!!!
SKSH!

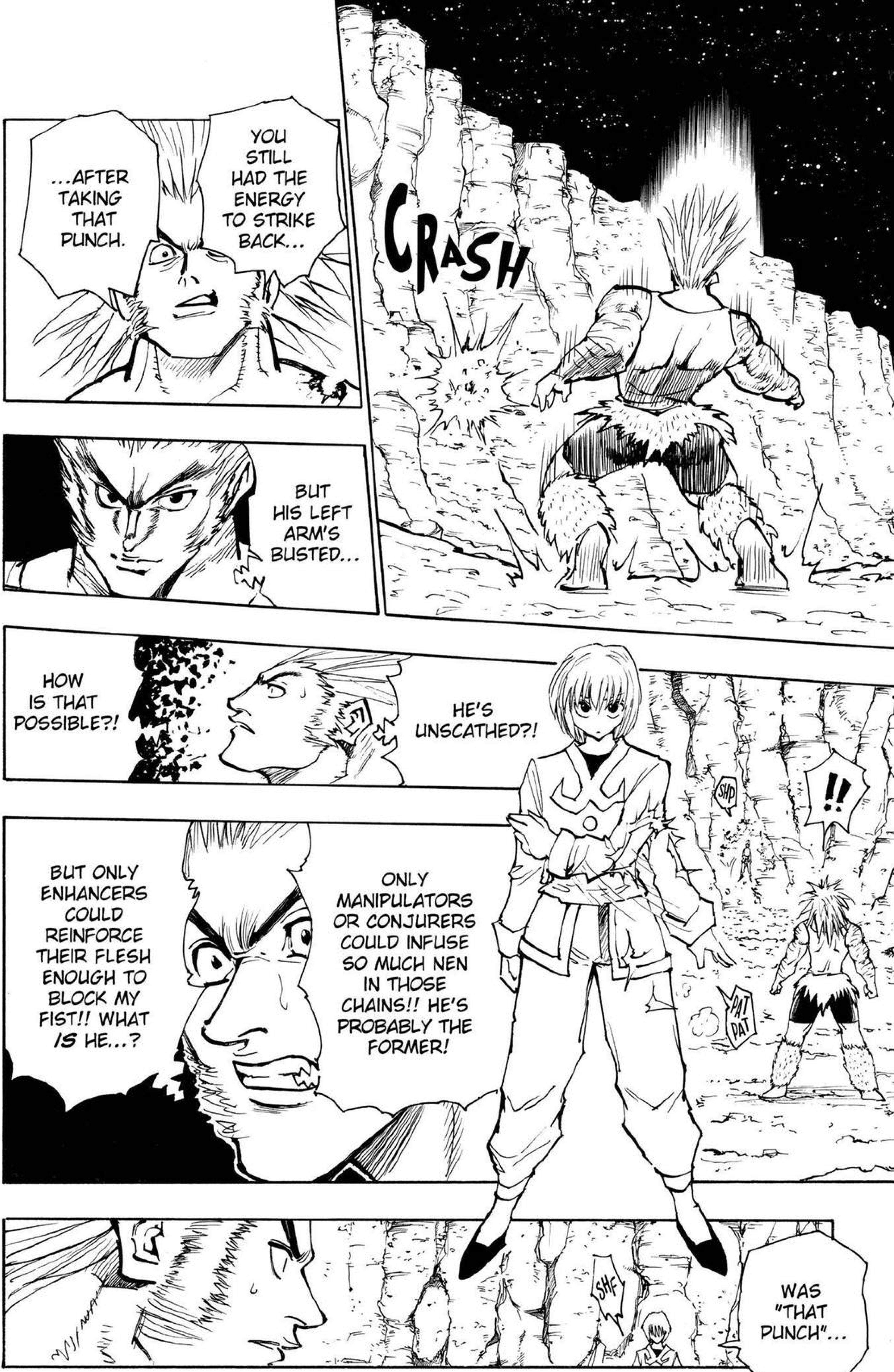

ROCK STORM!!
CHAIN JAIL!!

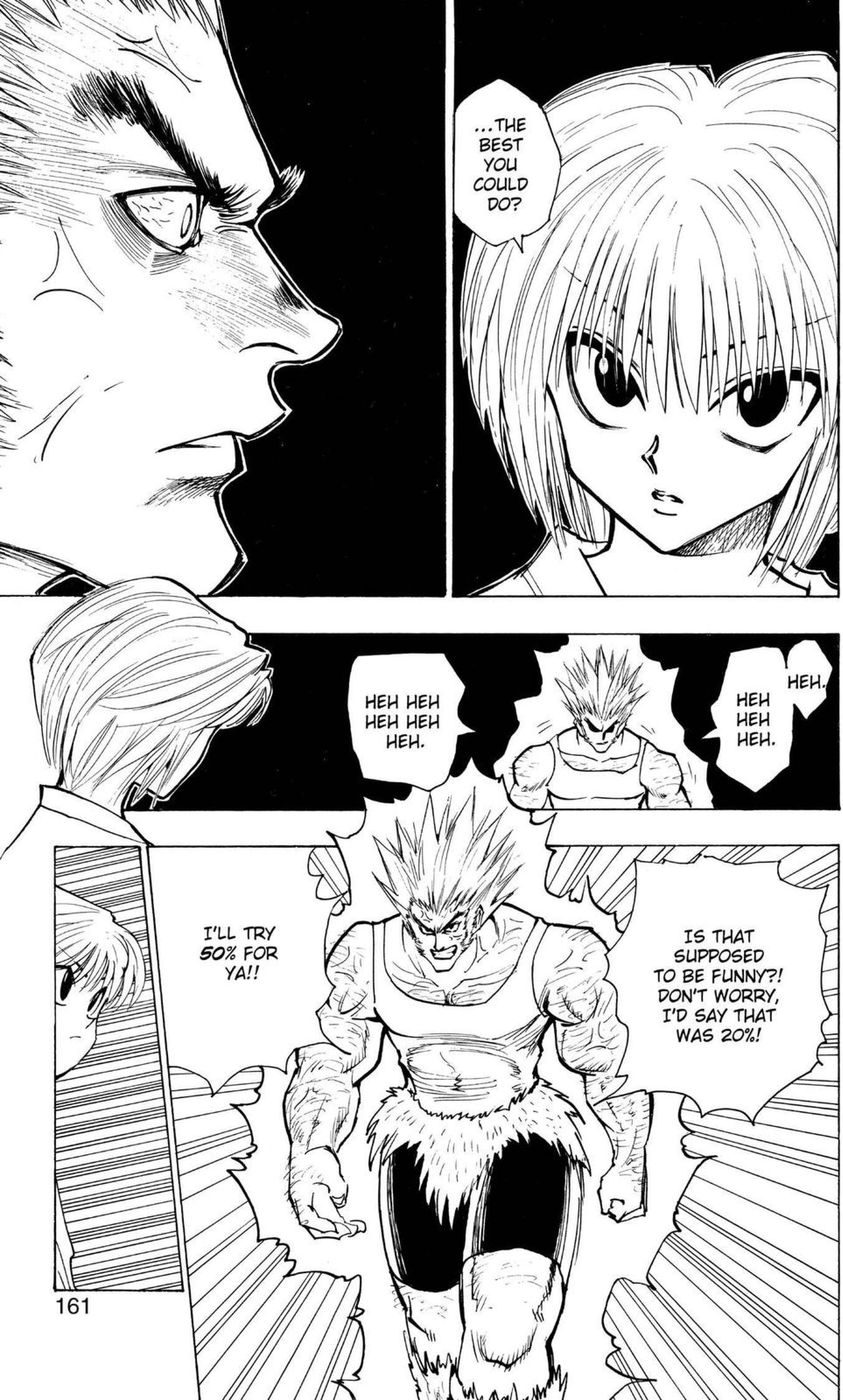

CHING
TSAP

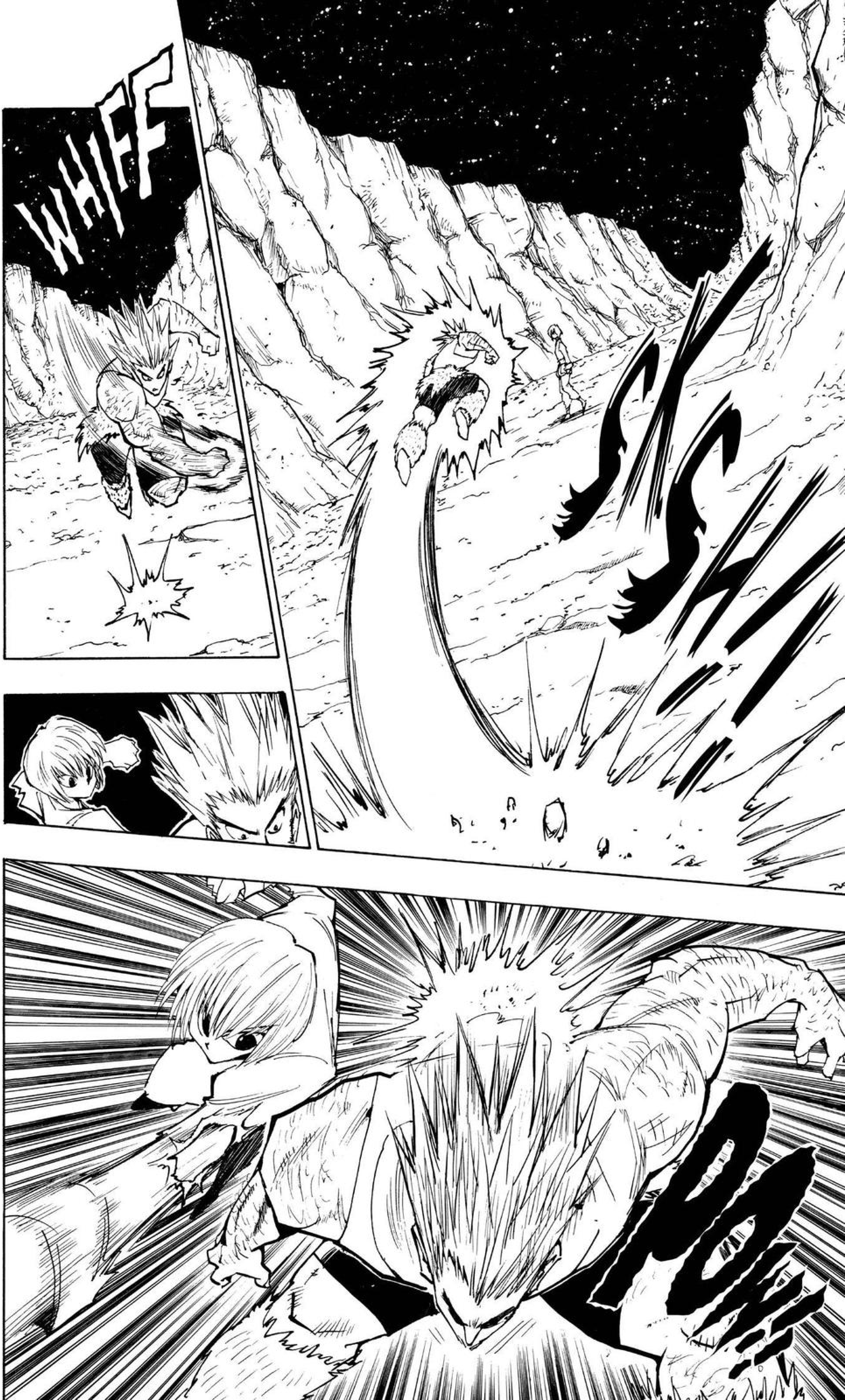

THAT CHAIN MEANS TROUBLE!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT VOODOO HE USED...
...BUT THAT CHAIN'S INFUSED WITH AN IMPROBABLE AMOUNT OF NEN!
FLICK
WHIFF
THERE'S ONLY ONE SOLUTION ...!
DUCK

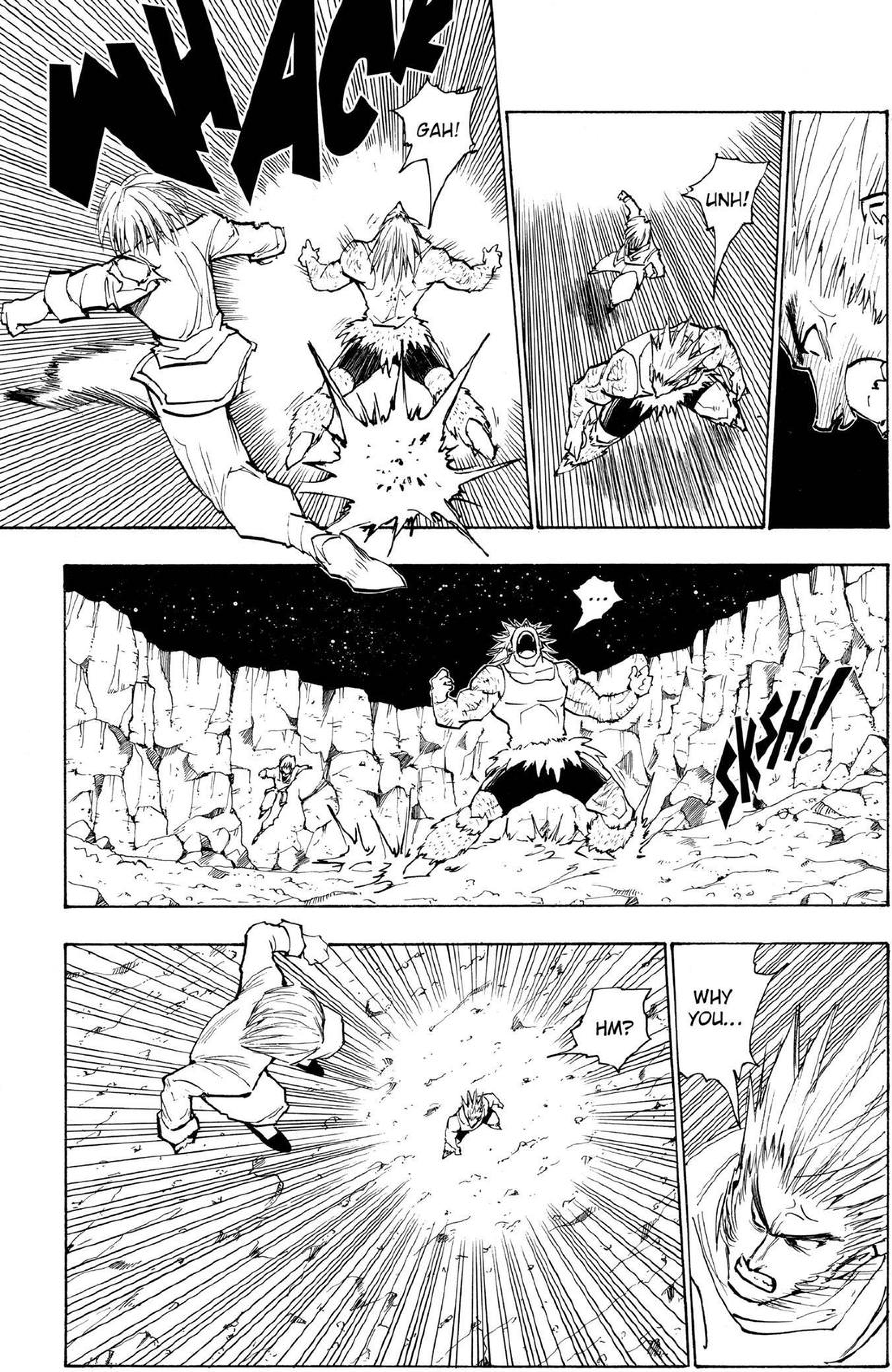

OFFENSE IS THE BEST DEFENSE!!
!
FSH
HRN!

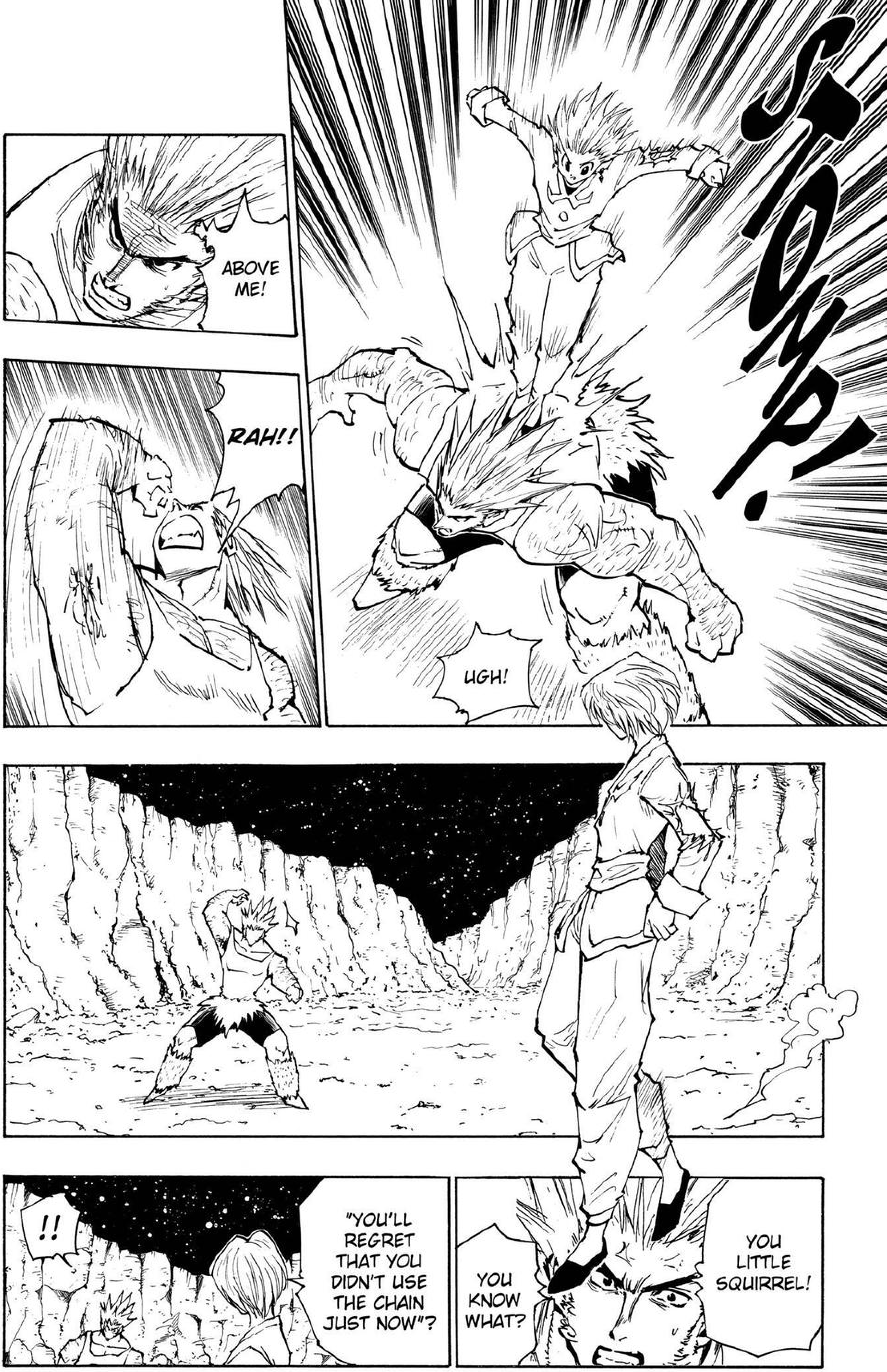

WHAM
GOTCHA!
FOOSH!!
!!
UNH!


CRASH
YOU STILL HAD THE ENERGY TO STRIKE BACK...
...AFTER TAKING THAT PUNCH.
BUT HIS LEFT ARM'S BUSTED...
!!
SHP
HE'S UNSCATHED?!
HOW IS THAT POSSIBLE?!
PAT PAT
ONLY MANIPULATORS OR CONJURERS COULD INFUSE SO MUCH NEN IN THOSE CHAINS!! HE'S PROBABLY THE FORMER!
BUT ONLY ENHANCERS COULD REINFORCE THEIR FLESH ENOUGH TO BLOCK MY FIST!! WHAT *IS* HE...?
WAS "THAT PUNCH"...
SHF

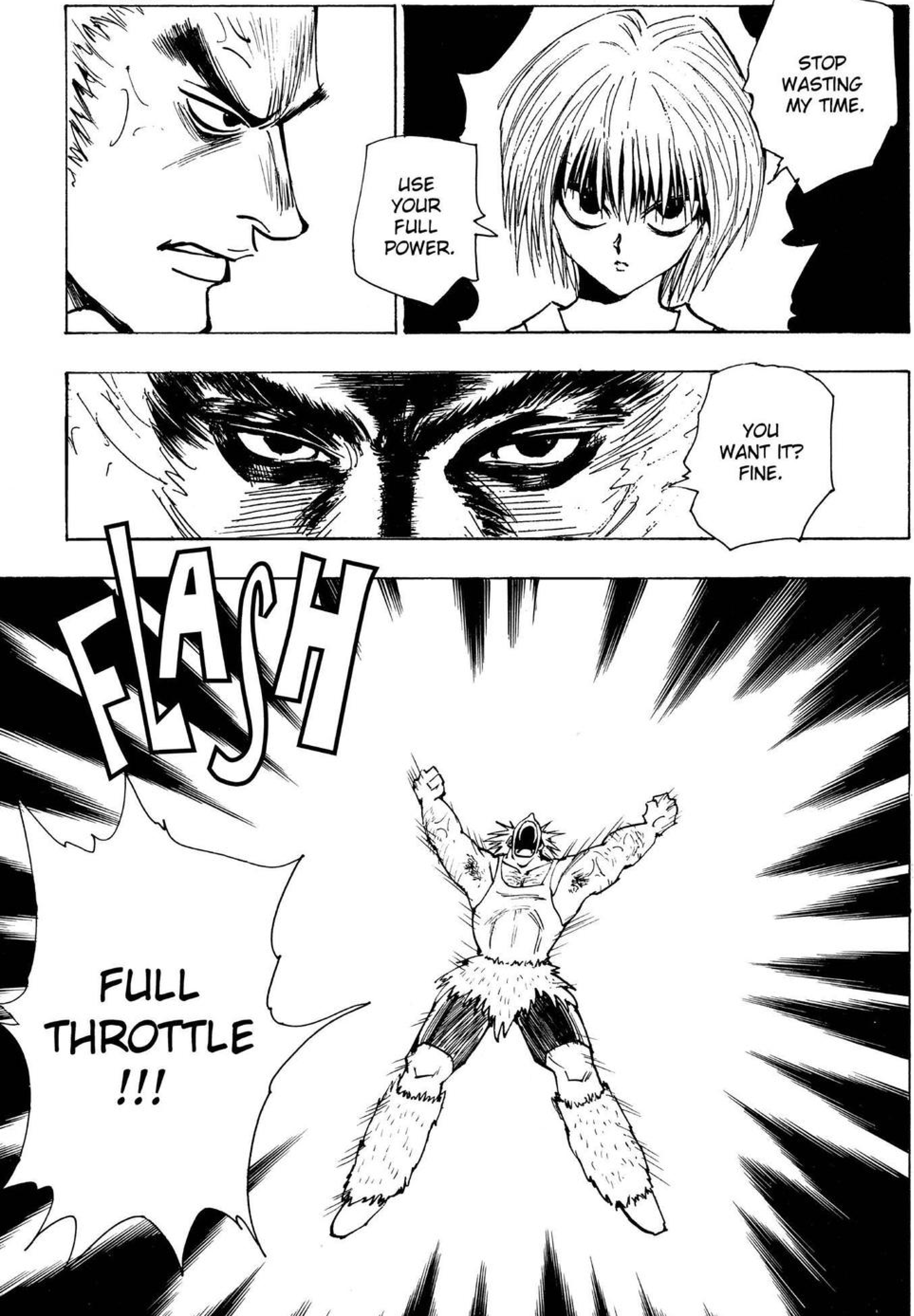

...THE BEST YOU COULD DO?
HEH.
HEH HEH HEH.
HEH HEH HEH HEH HEH.
IS THAT SUPPOSED TO BE FUNNY?! DON'T WORRY, I'D SAY THAT WAS 20%!
I'LL TRY 50% FOR YA!!

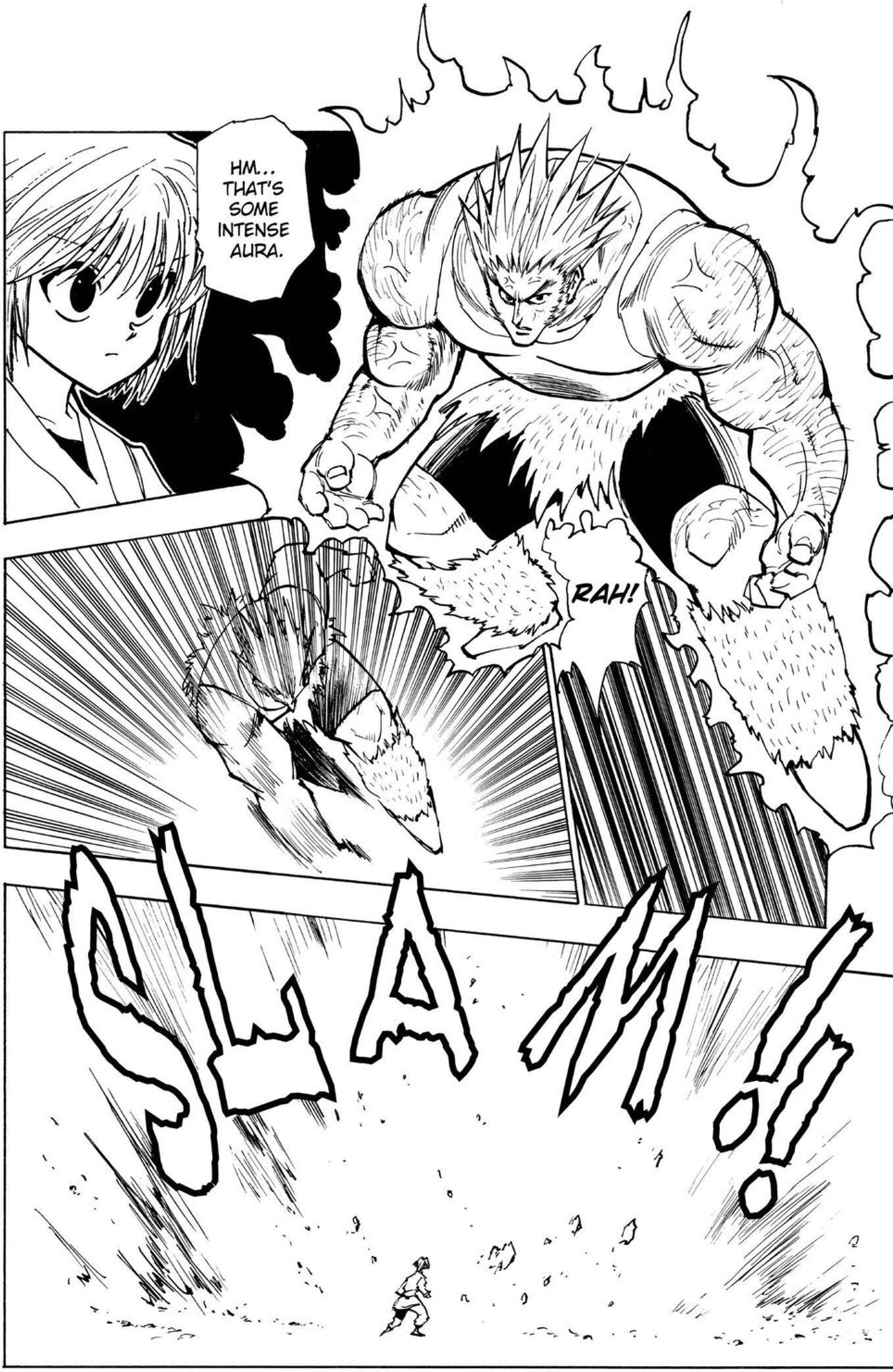

WHIFF
SSH
POW

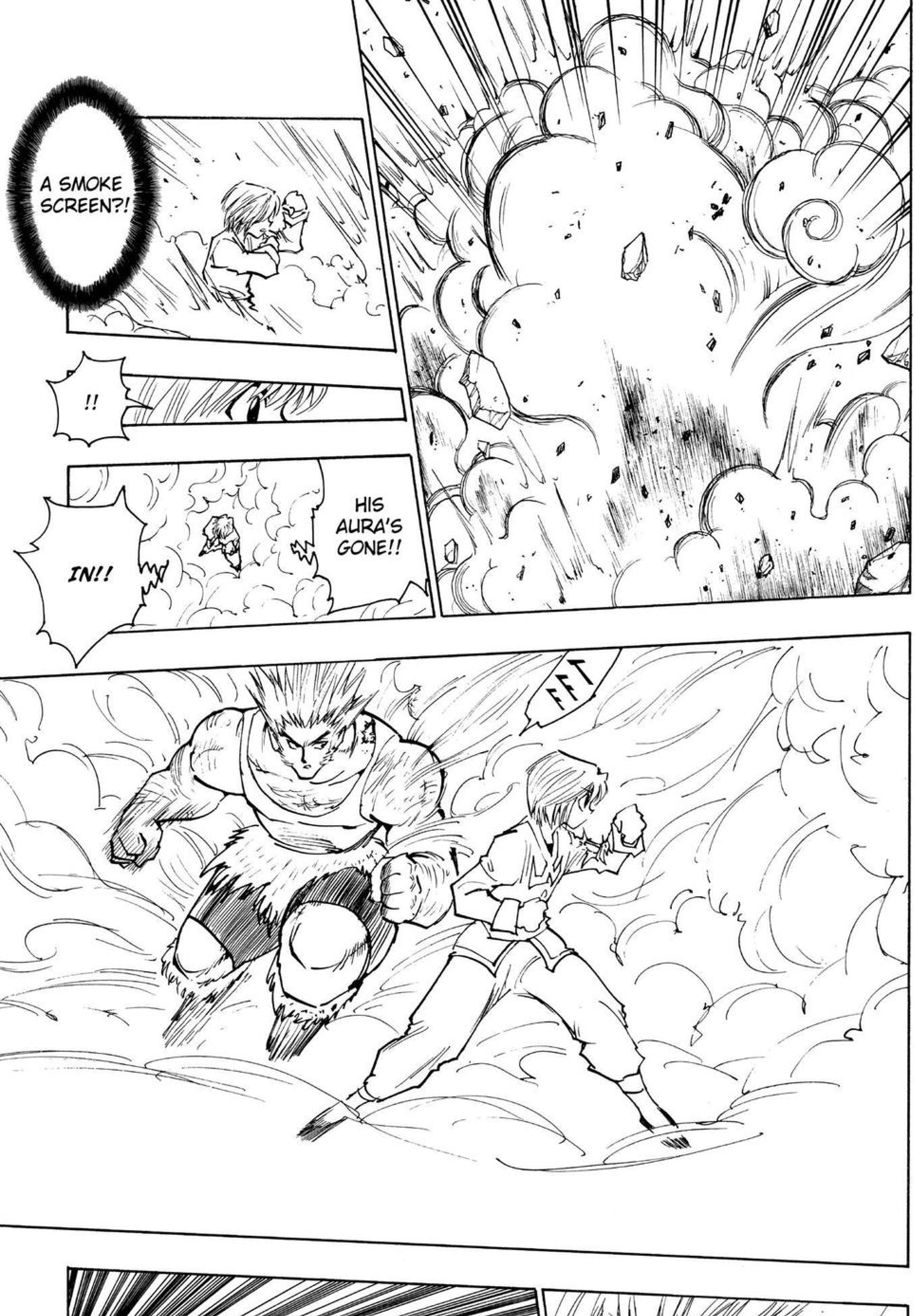

WHACK
GAH!
UNH!
...
SKSH!
WHY YOU...
HM?

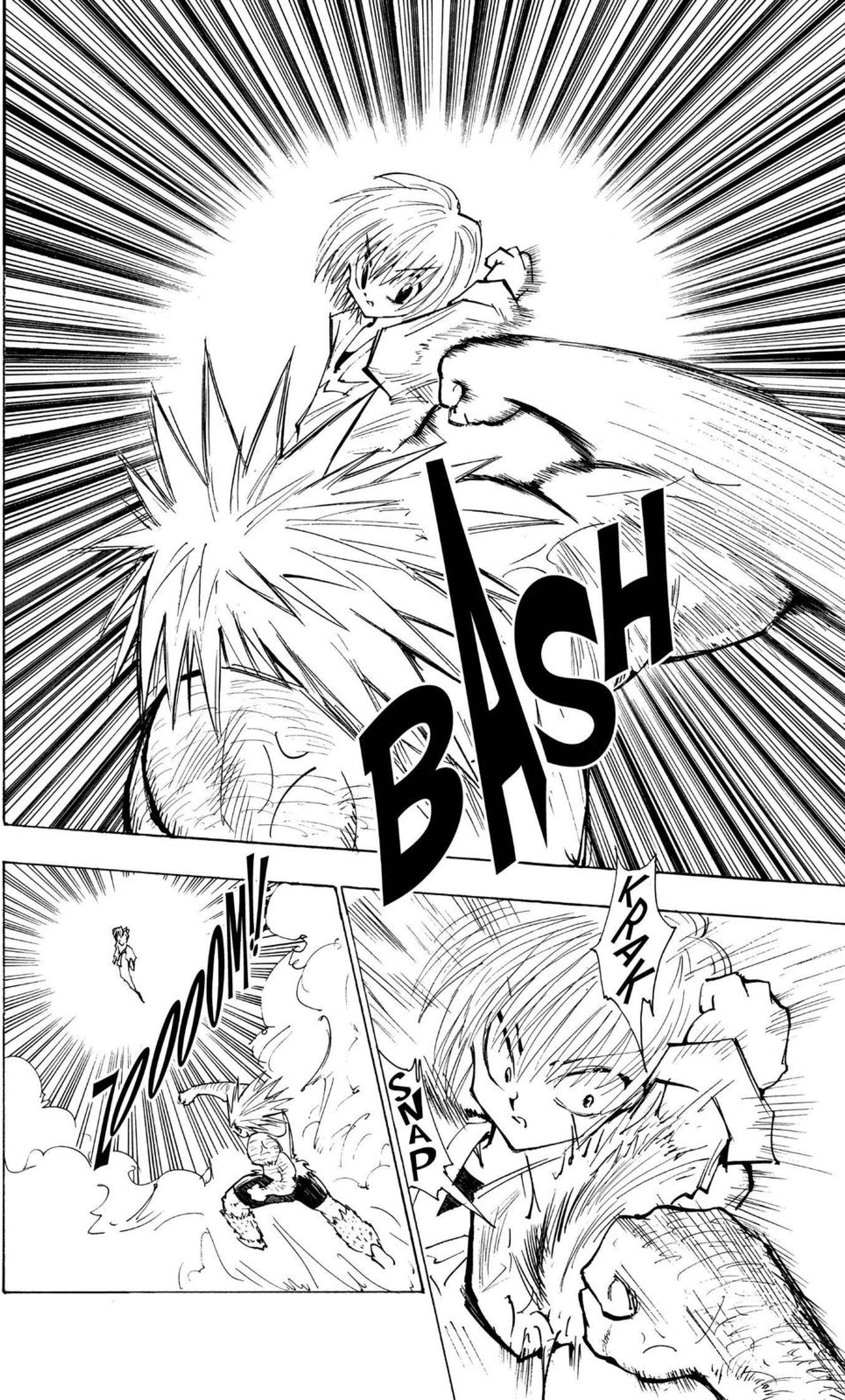

STOMP!
UGH!
ABOVE ME!
RAH!!
YOU LITTLE SQUIRREL!
YOU KNOW WHAT?
"YOU'LL REGRET THAT YOU DIDN'T USE THE CHAIN JUST NOW"?
!!

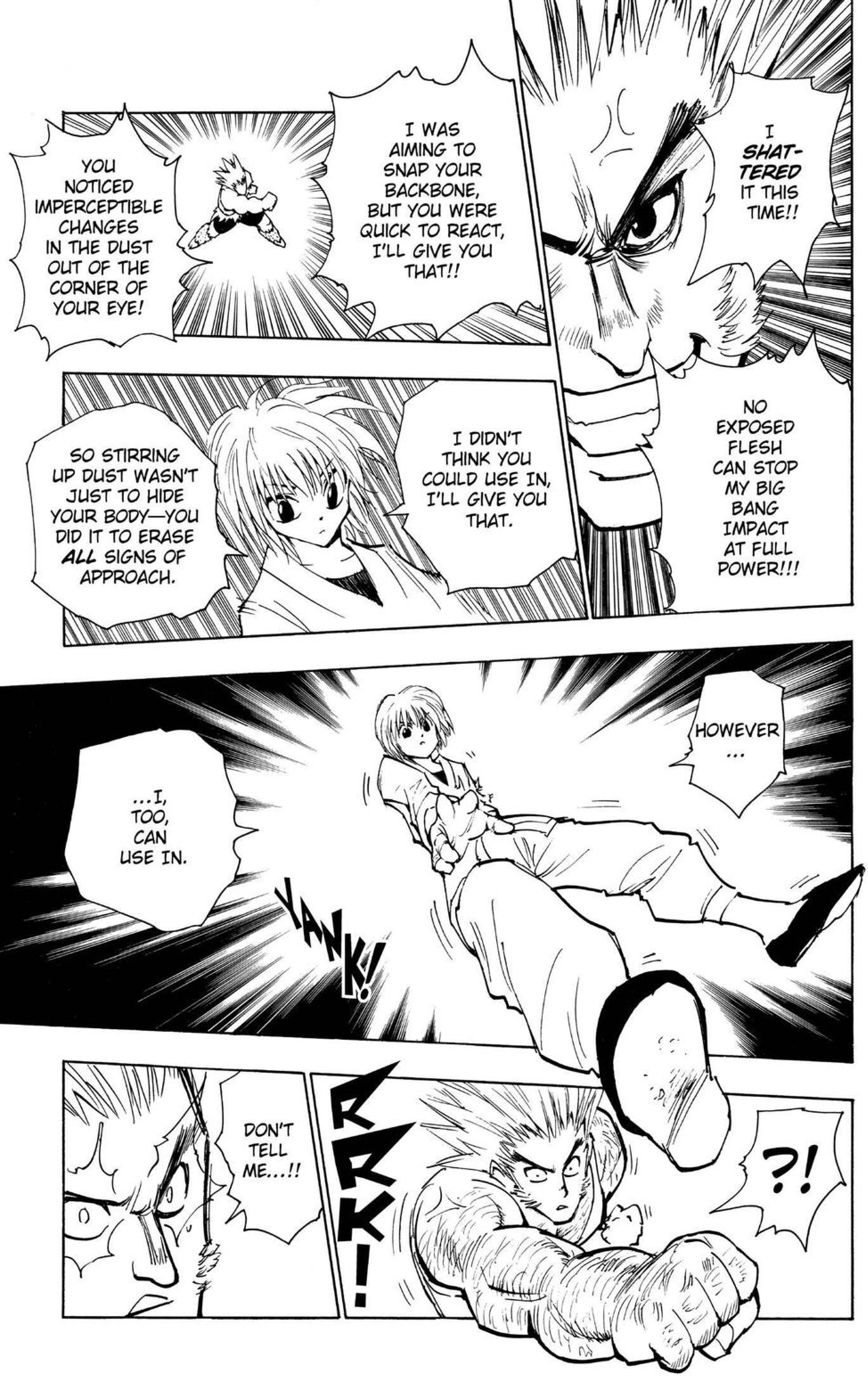
READ THIS WAY

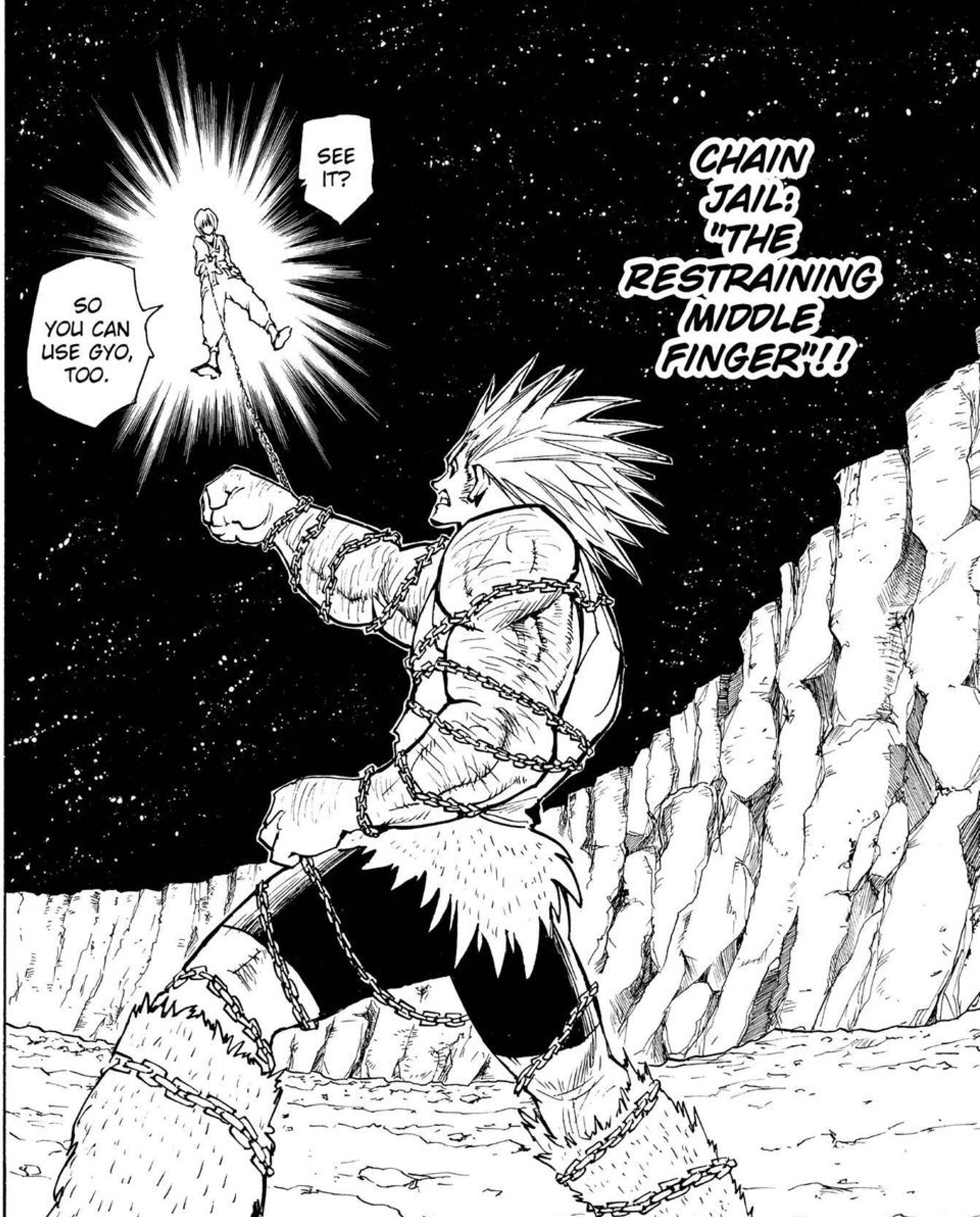

STOP WASTING MY TIME.
USE YOUR FULL POWER.
YOU WANT IT? FINE.
FLASH
FULL THROTTLE !!!

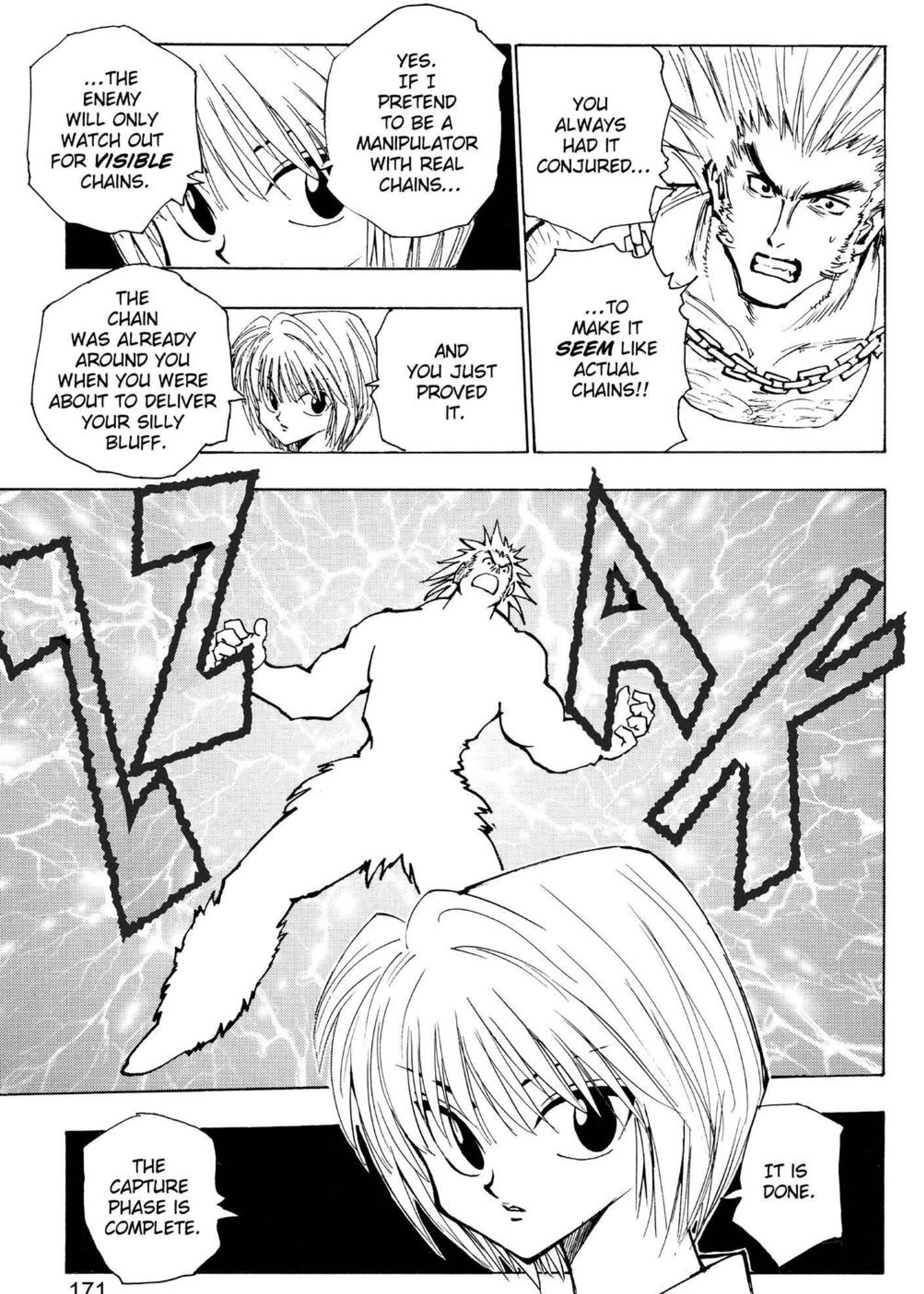

HM... THAT'S SOME INTENSE AURA.
RAH!
SLAM!!


A SMOKE SCREEN?!
!!
HIS AURA'S GONE!!
IN!!
FFT


BASH
KRAK
SNAP
ZOOOOM!!

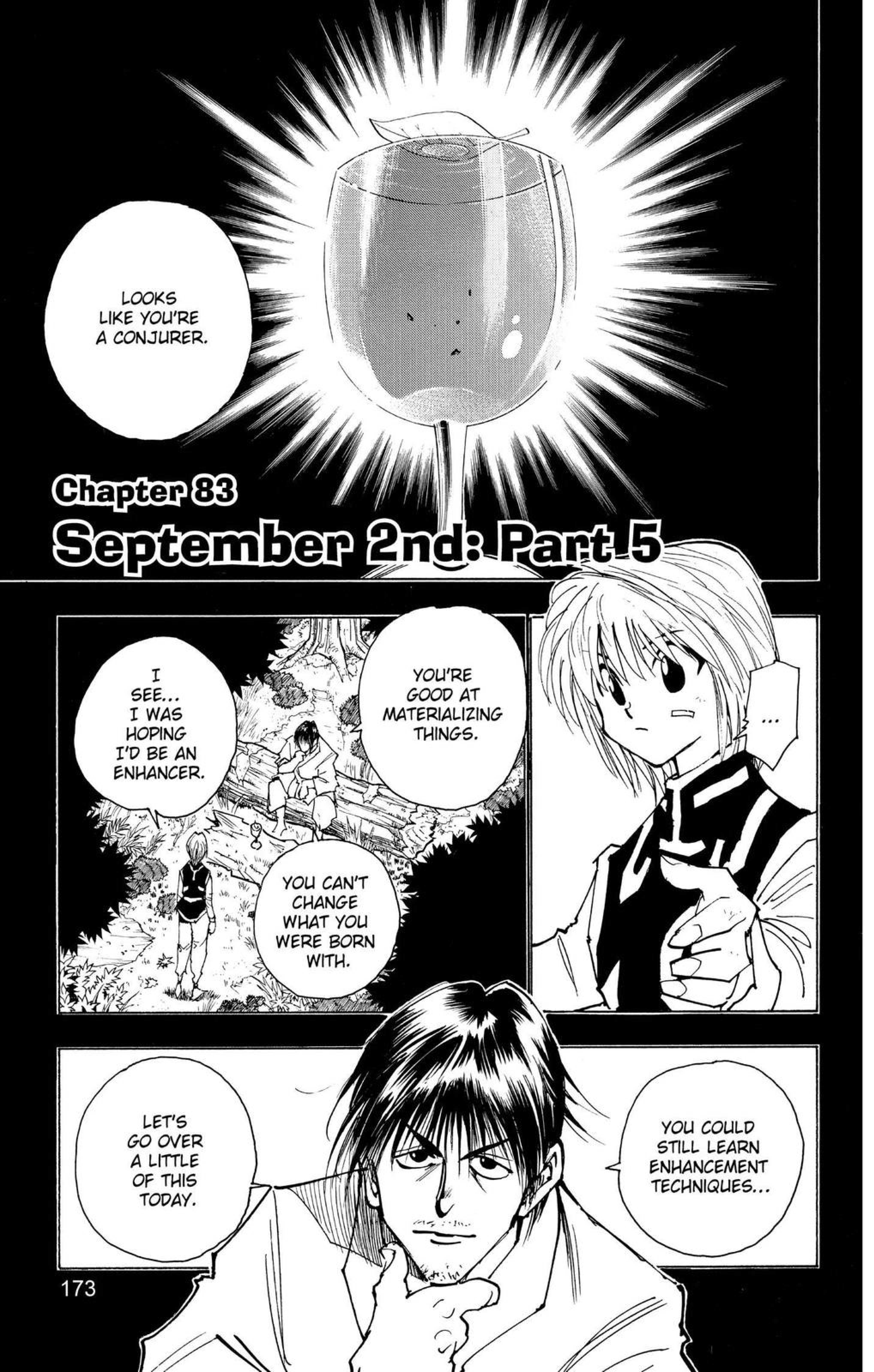

I SHATTERED IT THIS TIME!!
NO EXPOSED FLESH CAN STOP MY BIG BANG IMPACT AT FULL POWER!!!
I WAS AIMING TO SNAP YOUR BACKBONE, BUT YOU WERE QUICK TO REACT, I'LL GIVE YOU THAT!!
YOU NOTICED IMPERCEPTIBLE CHANGES IN THE DUST OUT OF THE CORNER OF YOUR EYE!
I DIDN'T THINK YOU COULD USE IN, I'LL GIVE YOU THAT.
SO STIRRING UP DUST WASN'T JUST TO HIDE YOUR BODY—YOU DID IT TO ERASE ALL SIGNS OF APPROACH.
HOWEVER...
...I, TOO, CAN USE IN.
YANK!
?!
RRK!
DON'T TELL ME...!!


CHAIN JAIL: "THE RESTRAINING MIDDLE FINGER"!!
SEE IT?
SO YOU CAN USE GYO, TOO.
THIS CHAIN HAS BEEN CONJURED OUT OF NEN!
SHMP
THEREFORE, I CAN MAKE IT INVISIBLE!


YOU ALWAYS HAD IT CONJURED...
...TO MAKE IT *SEEM* LIKE ACTUAL CHAINS!!
YES. IF I PRETEND TO BE A MANIPULATOR WITH REAL CHAINS...
...THE ENEMY WILL ONLY WATCH OUT FOR *VISIBLE* CHAINS.
AND YOU JUST PROVED IT.
THE CHAIN WAS ALREADY AROUND YOU WHEN YOU WERE ABOUT TO DELIVER YOUR SILLY BLUFF.
ZZAK
IT IS DONE.
THE CAPTURE PHASE IS COMPLETE.

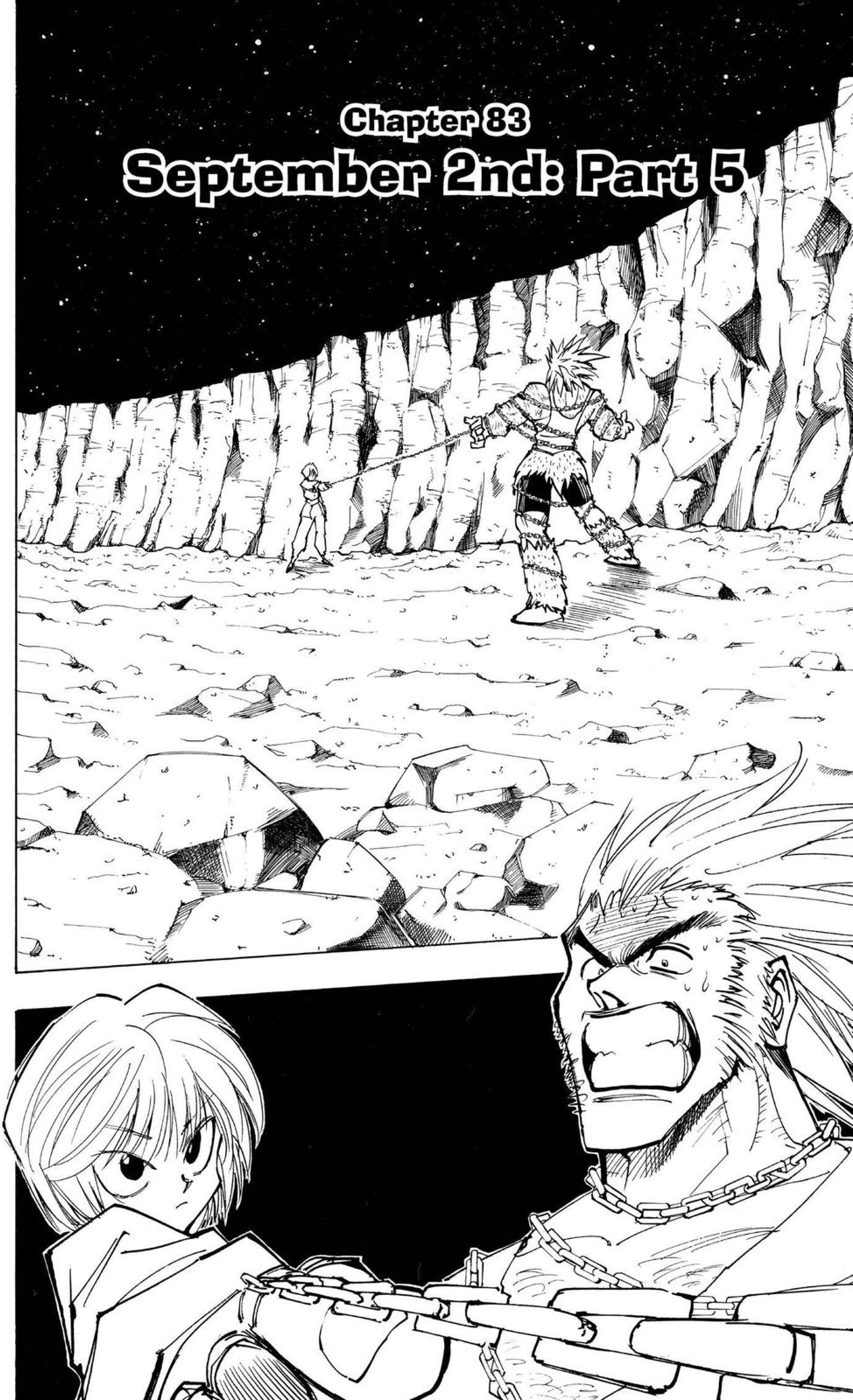
Chapter 83

September 2nd: Part 5

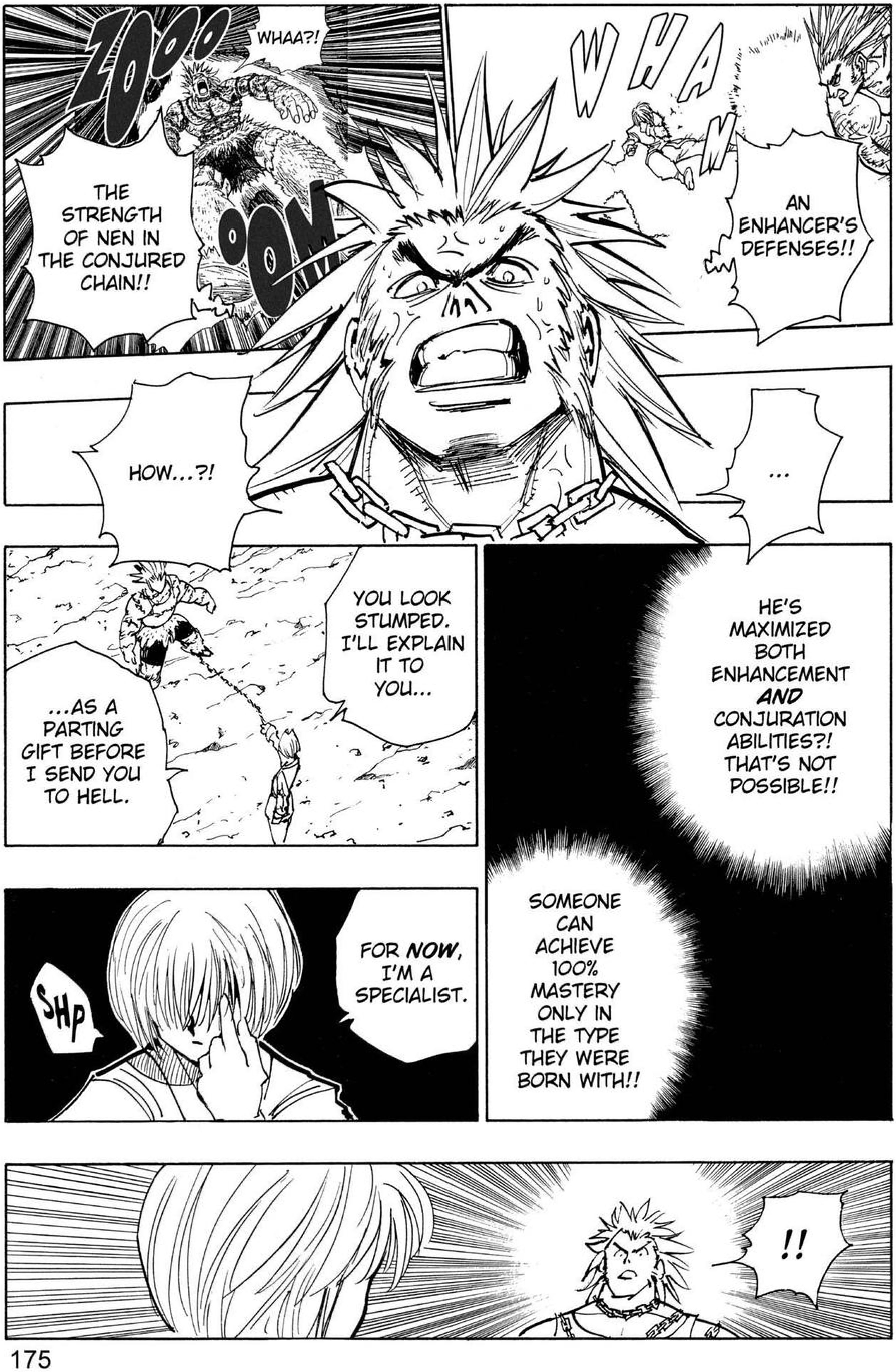

LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE A CONJURER.
...
YOU'RE GOOD AT MATERIALIZING THINGS.
I SEE... I WAS HOPING I'D BE AN ENHANCER.
YOU CAN'T CHANGE WHAT YOU WERE BORN WITH.
YOU COULD STILL LEARN ENHANCEMENT TECHNIQUES...
LET'S GO OVER A LITTLE OF THIS TODAY.

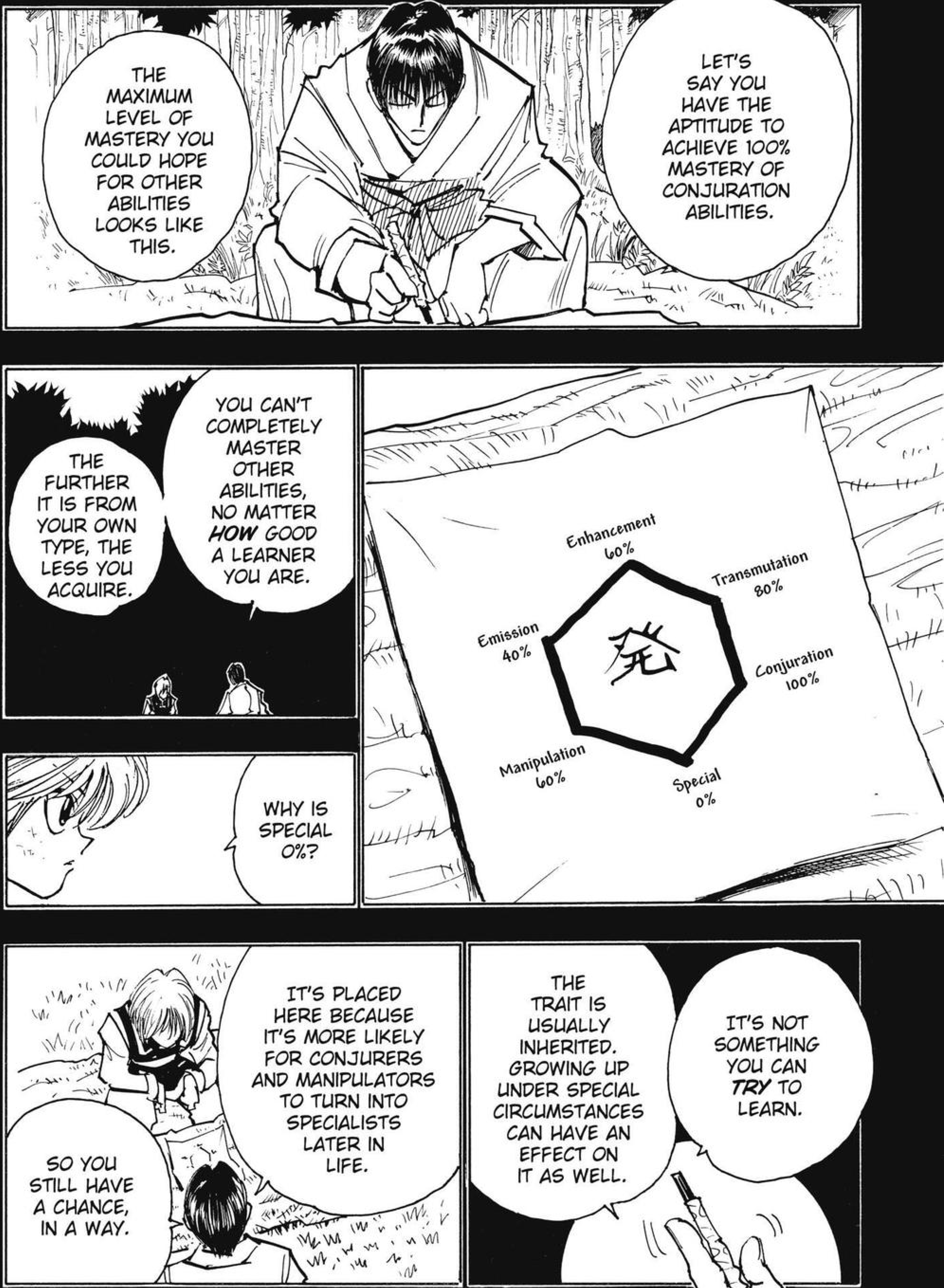
Chapter 83

September 2nd: Part 5

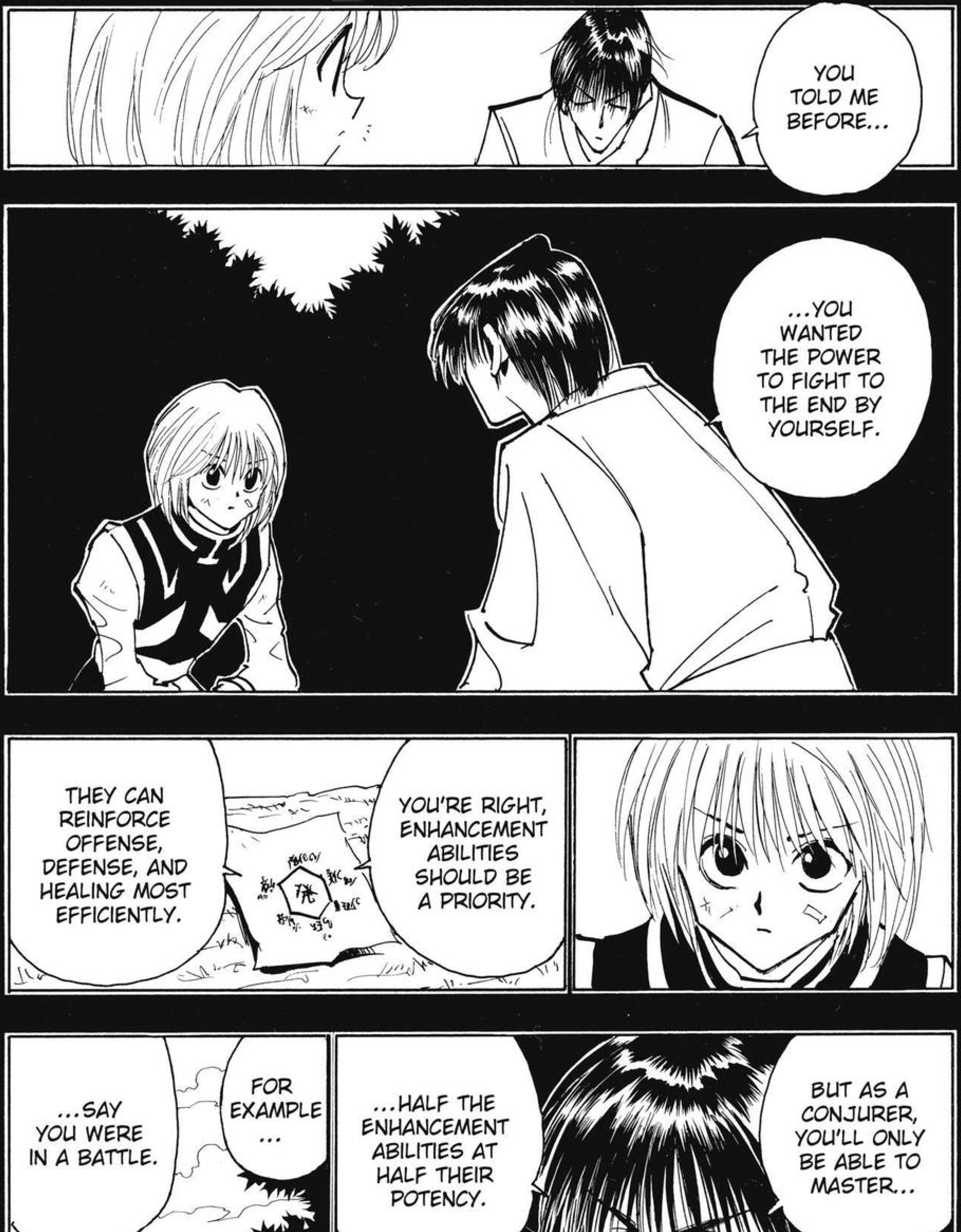


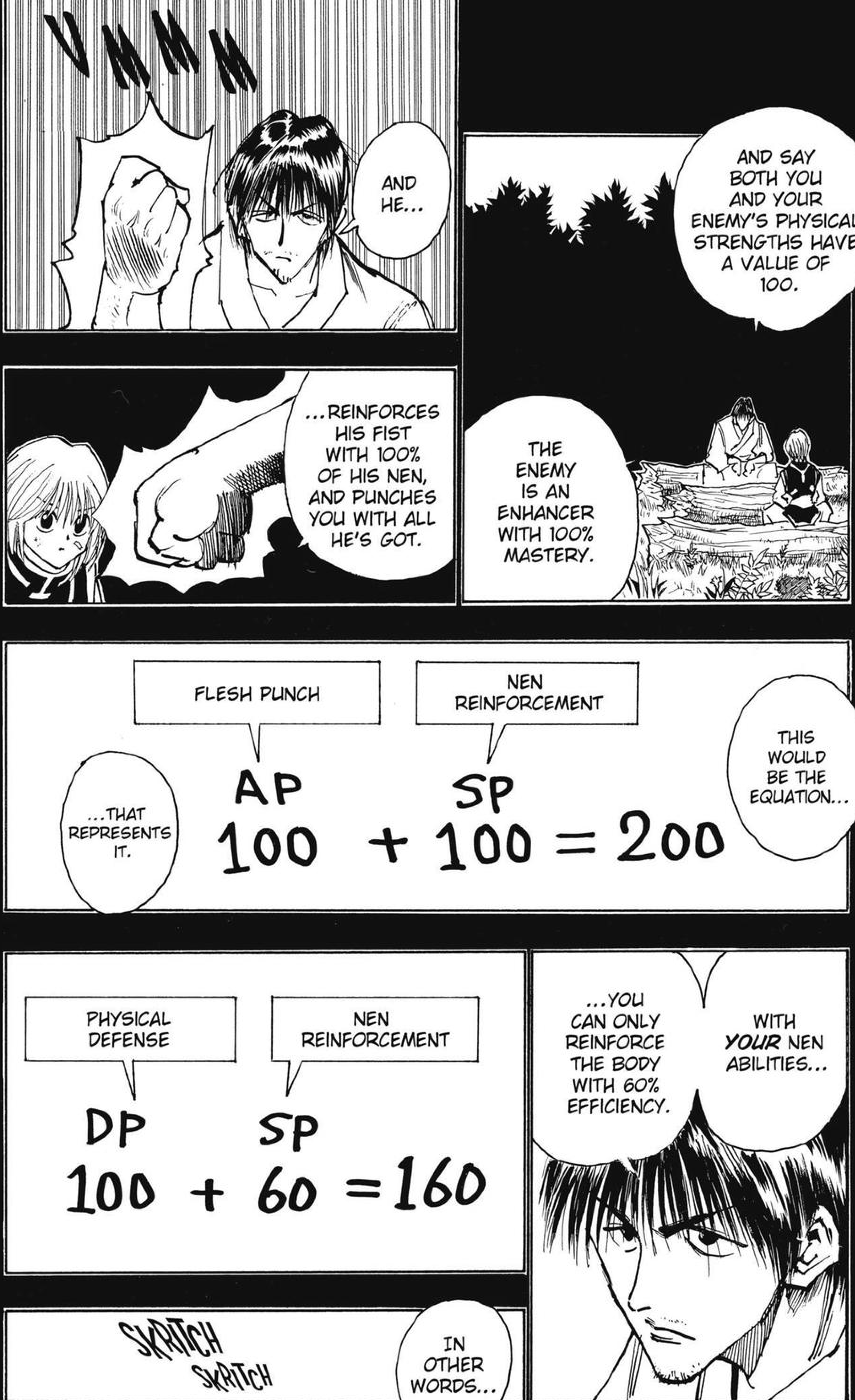
READ THIS WAY


WHAN
AN ENHANCER'S DEFENSES!!
ZOOOOM
WHAA?!
THE STRENGTH OF NEN IN THE CONJURED CHAIN!!
...
HOW...?!
HE'S MAXIMIZED BOTH ENHANCEMENT **AND** CONJURATION ABILITIES?! THAT'S NOT POSSIBLE!!
SOMEONE CAN ACHIEVE 100% MASTERY ONLY IN THE TYPE THEY WERE BORN WITH!!
YOU LOOK STUMPED. I'LL EXPLAIN IT TO YOU...
...AS A PARTING GIFT BEFORE I SEND YOU TO HELL.
FOR **NOW**, I'M A SPECIALIST.
SHP
!!

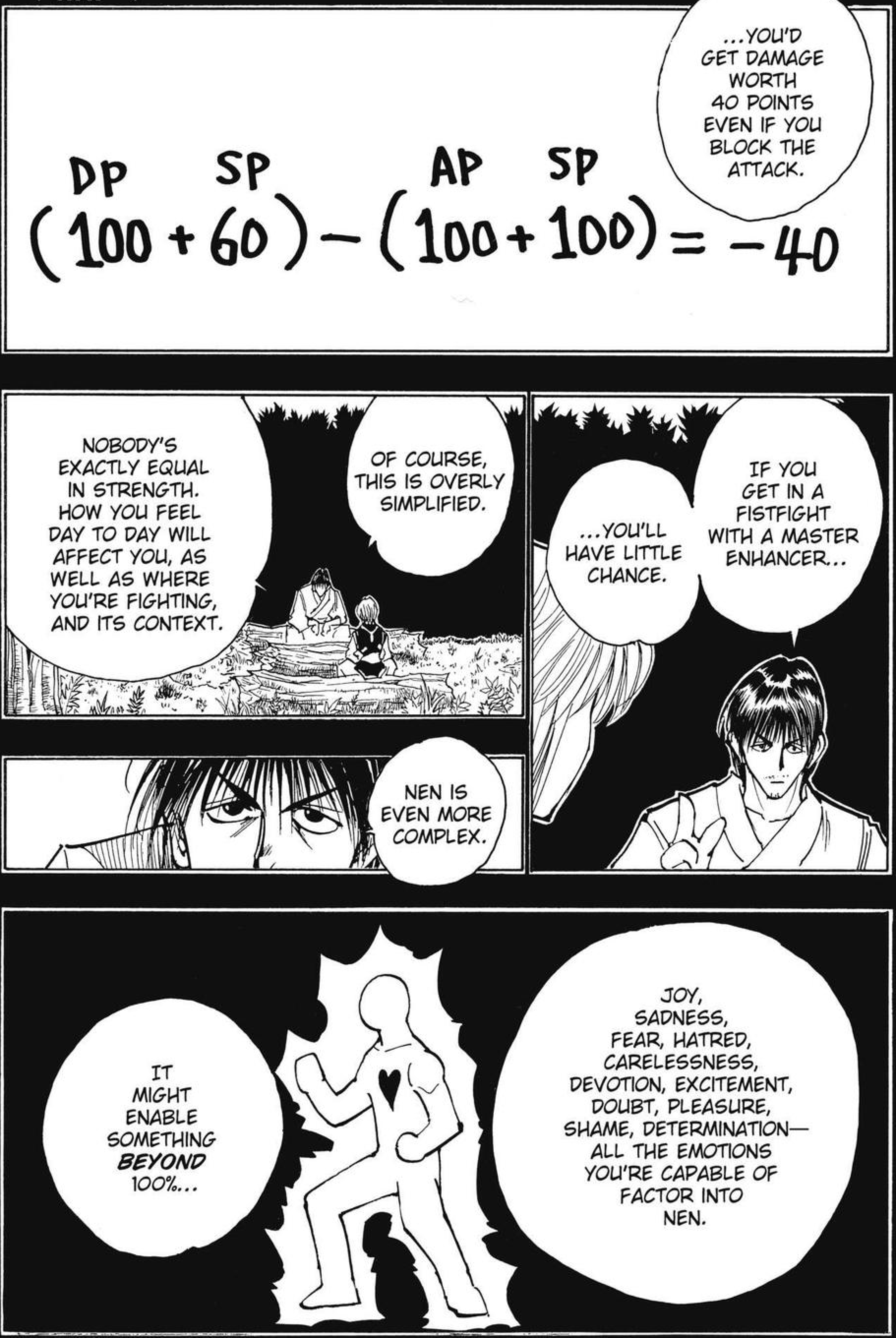

LET'S SAY YOU HAVE THE APTITUDE TO ACHIEVE 100% MASTERY OF CONJURATION ABILITIES.
THE MAXIMUM LEVEL OF MASTERY YOU COULD HOPE FOR OTHER ABILITIES LOOKS LIKE THIS.
発
Enhancement 60%
Transmutation 80%
Conjuration 100%
Special 0%
Manipulation 60%
Emission 40%
YOU CAN'T COMPLETELY MASTER OTHER ABILITIES, NO MATTER *HOW* GOOD A LEARNER YOU ARE.
THE FURTHER IT IS FROM YOUR OWN TYPE, THE LESS YOU ACQUIRE.
WHY IS SPECIAL 0%?
IT'S NOT SOMETHING YOU CAN *TRY* TO LEARN.
THE TRAIT IS USUALLY INHERITED. GROWING UP UNDER SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES CAN HAVE AN EFFECT ON IT AS WELL.
IT'S PLACED HERE BECAUSE IT'S MORE LIKELY FOR CONJURERS AND MANIPULATORS TO TURN INTO SPECIALISTS LATER IN LIFE.
SO YOU STILL HAVE A CHANCE, IN A WAY.

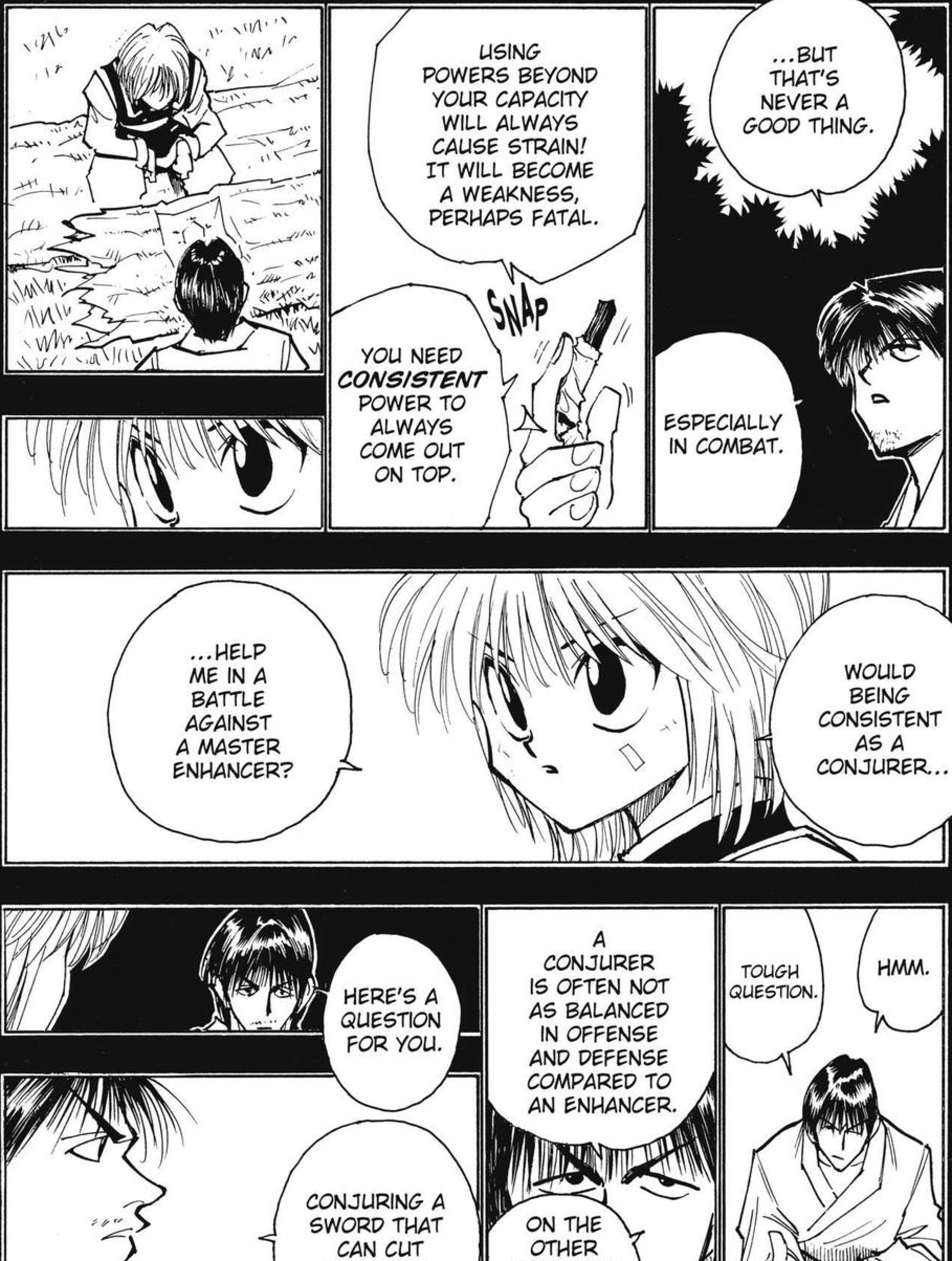
READ THIS WAY

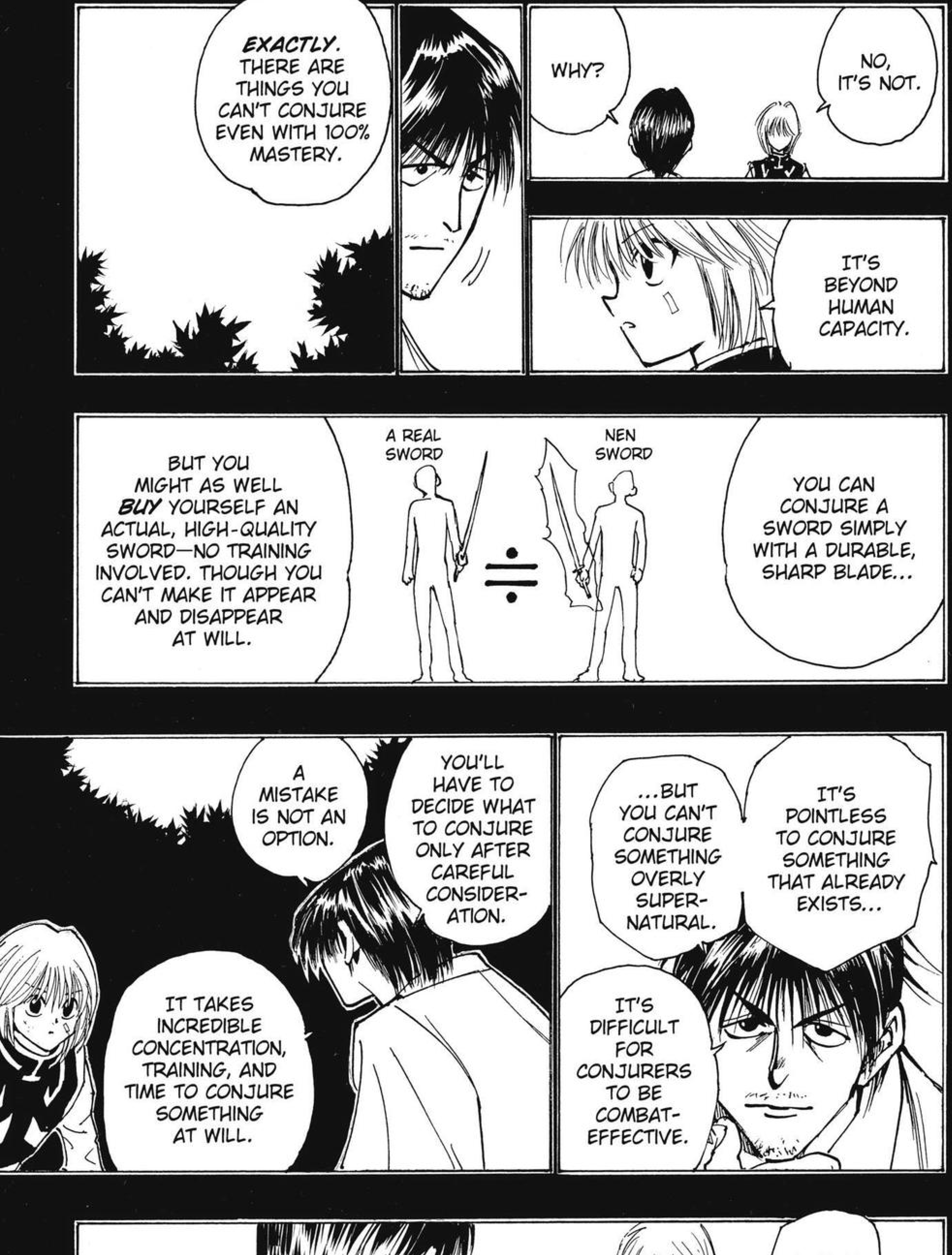

YOU TOLD ME BEFORE...
...YOU WANTED THE POWER TO FIGHT TO THE END BY YOURSELF.
YOU'RE RIGHT, ENHANCEMENT ABILITIES SHOULD BE A PRIORITY.
THEY CAN REINFORCE OFFENSE, DEFENSE, AND HEALING MOST EFFICIENTLY.
BUT AS A CONJURER, YOU'LL ONLY BE ABLE TO MASTER...
...HALF THE ENHANCEMENT ABILITIES AT HALF THEIR POTENCY.
FOR EXAMPLE ...
...SAY YOU WERE IN A BATTLE.

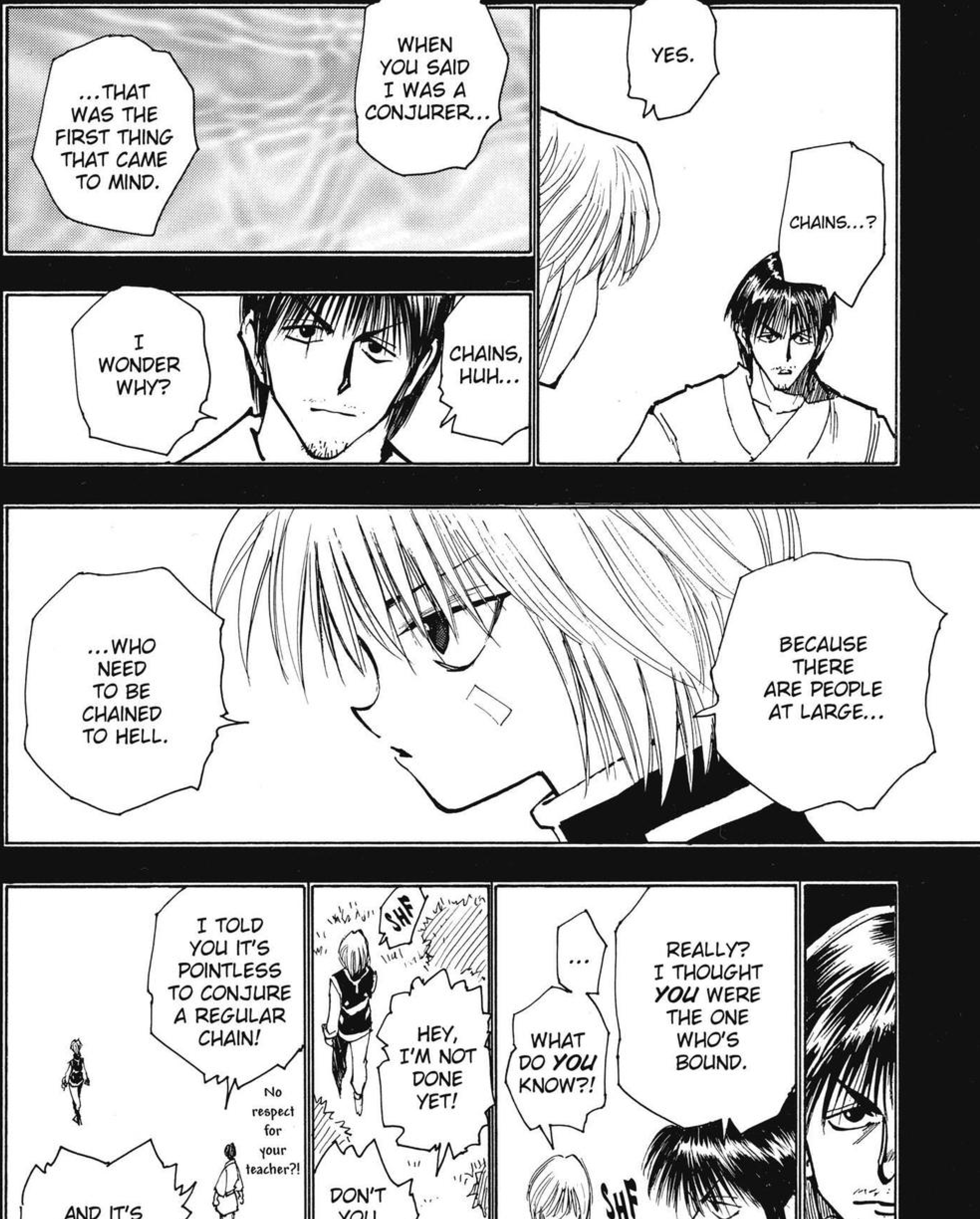

AND SAY BOTH YOU AND YOUR ENEMY'S PHYSICAL STRENGTHS HAVE A VALUE OF 100.
THE ENEMY IS AN ENHANCER WITH 100% MASTERY.
VMMM
AND HE...
...REINFORCES HIS FIST WITH 100% OF HIS NEN, AND PUNCHES YOU WITH ALL HE'S GOT.
THIS WOULD BE THE EQUATION...
NEN REINFORCEMENT
FLESH PUNCH
AP
SP
100 + 100 = 200
...THAT REPRESENTS IT.
WITH *YOUR* NEN ABILITIES...
...YOU CAN ONLY REINFORCE THE BODY WITH 60% EFFICIENCY.
NEN REINFORCEMENT
PHYSICAL DEFENSE
DP
SP
100 + 60 = 160
IN OTHER WORDS...
SKRITCH
SKRITCH

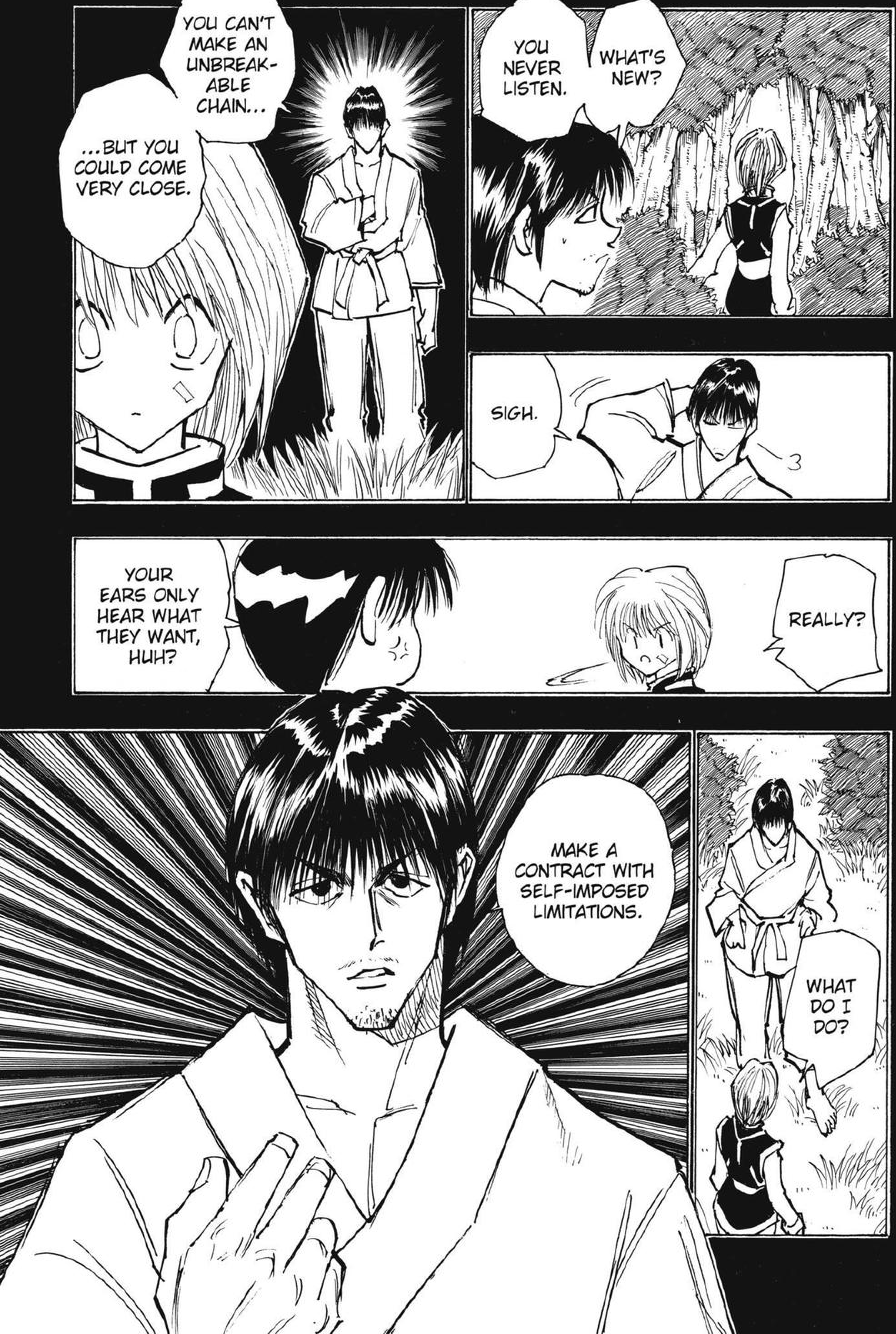
READ THIS WAY

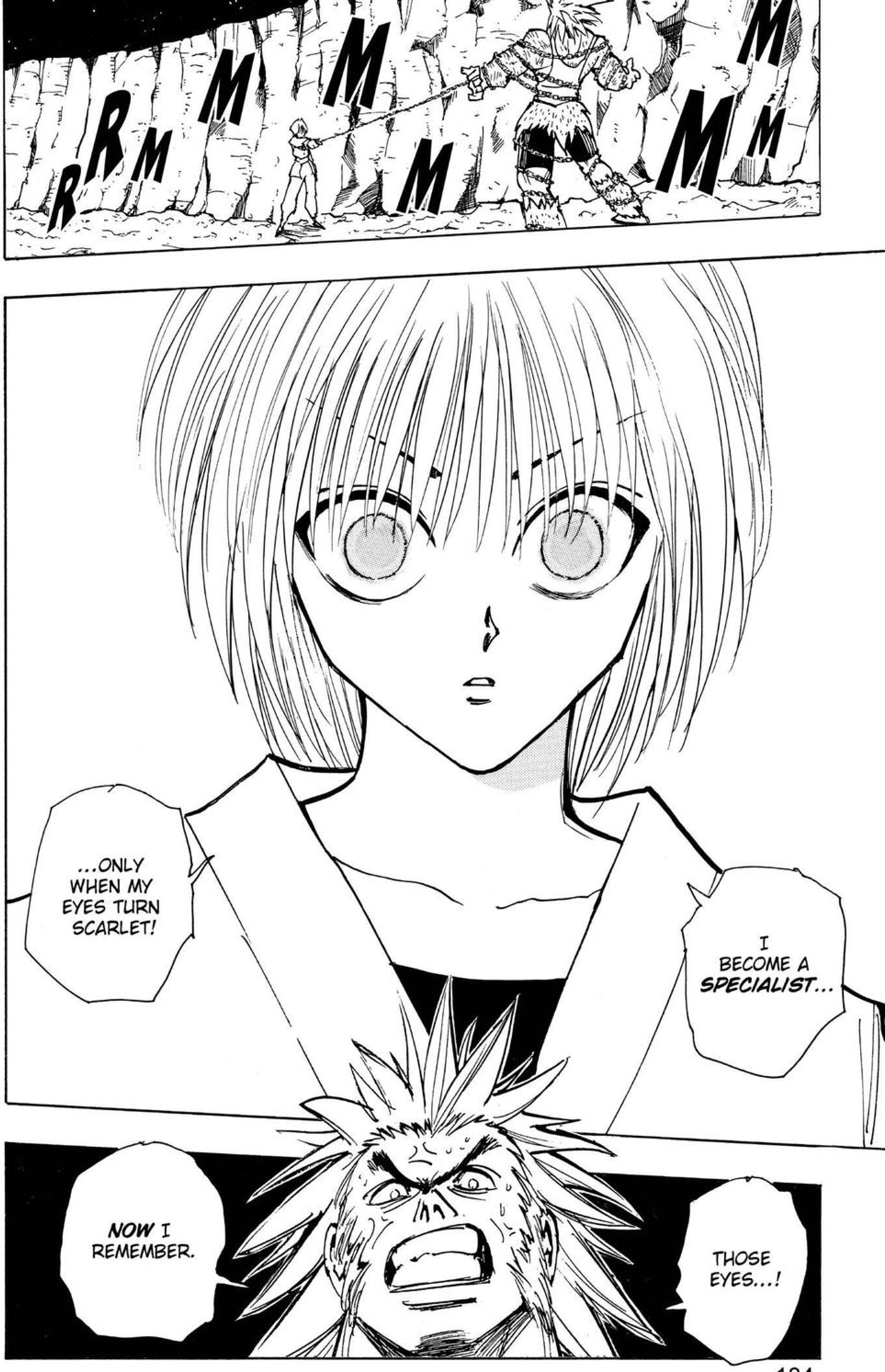

DP SP AP SP (100 + 60) − (100 + 100) = −40
...YOU'D GET DAMAGE WORTH 40 POINTS EVEN IF YOU BLOCK THE ATTACK.
IF YOU GET IN A FISTFIGHT WITH A MASTER ENHANCER...
...YOU'LL HAVE LITTLE CHANCE.
OF COURSE, THIS IS OVERLY SIMPLIFIED.
NOBODY'S EXACTLY EQUAL IN STRENGTH. HOW YOU FEEL DAY TO DAY WILL AFFECT YOU, AS WELL AS WHERE YOU'RE FIGHTING, AND ITS CONTEXT.
NEN IS EVEN MORE COMPLEX.
JOY, SADNESS, FEAR, HATRED, CARELESSNESS, DEVOTION, EXCITEMENT, DOUBT, PLEASURE, SHAME, DETERMINATION— ALL THE EMOTIONS YOU'RE CAPABLE OF FACTOR INTO NEN.
IT MIGHT ENABLE SOMETHING *BEYOND* 100%...


...BUT THAT'S NEVER A GOOD THING.
ESPECIALLY IN COMBAT.
USING POWERS BEYOND YOUR CAPACITY WILL ALWAYS CAUSE STRAIN! IT WILL BECOME A WEAKNESS, PERHAPS FATAL.
SNAP
YOU NEED ***CONSISTENT*** POWER TO ALWAYS COME OUT ON TOP.
WOULD BEING CONSISTENT AS A CONJURER...
...HELP ME IN A BATTLE AGAINST A MASTER ENHANCER?
HMM.
TOUGH QUESTION.
CLACK
A CONJURER IS OFTEN NOT AS BALANCED IN OFFENSE AND DEFENSE COMPARED TO AN ENHANCER.
ON THE OTHER HAND, YOU COULD BE FORMIDABLE IF YOU FIND YOUR GROOVE.
HERE'S A QUESTION FOR YOU.
CONJURING A SWORD THAT CAN CUT ***ANYTHING***...
...IS THAT POSSIBLE?

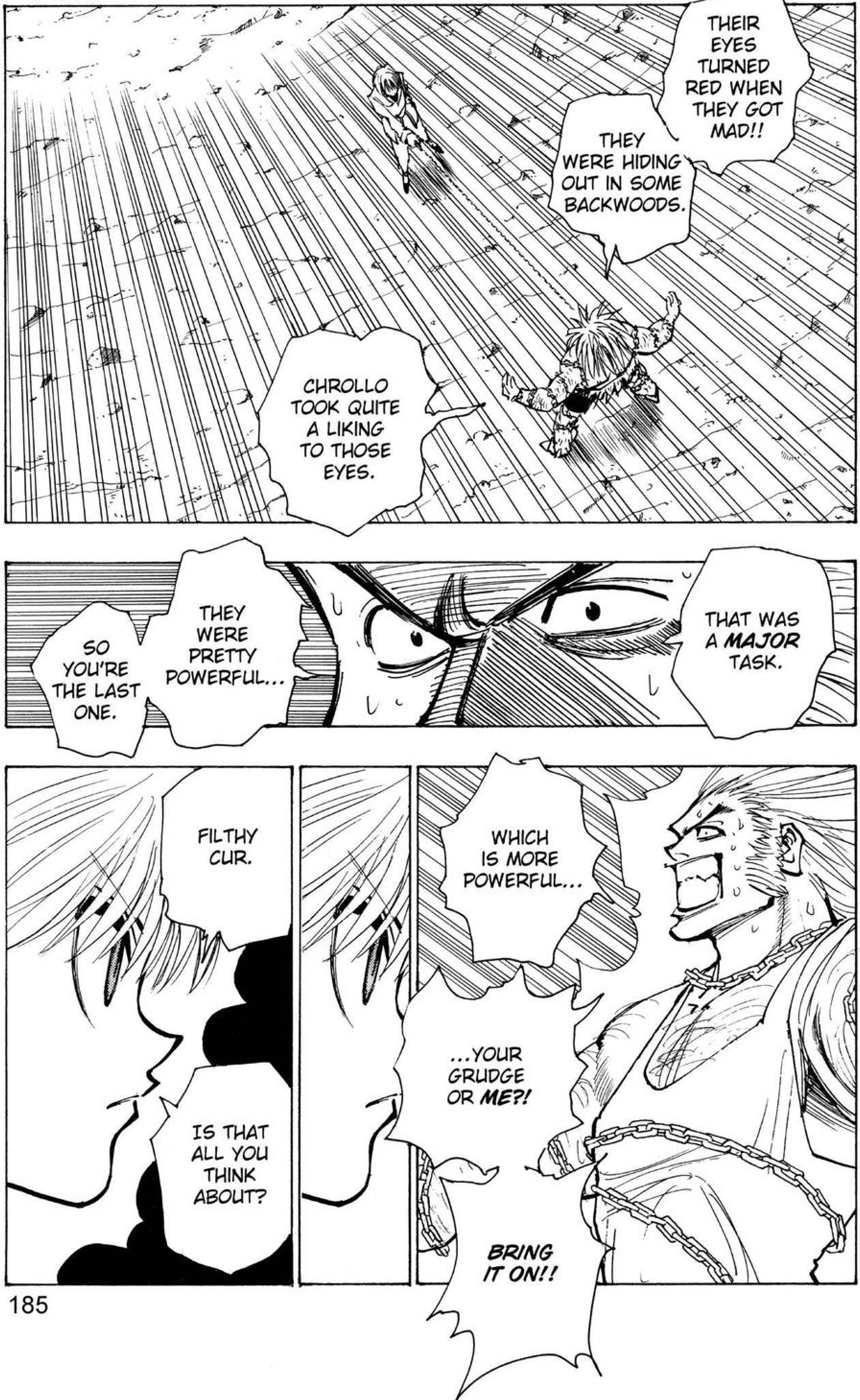

NO, IT'S NOT.
WHY?
IT'S BEYOND HUMAN CAPACITY.
EXACTLY. THERE ARE THINGS YOU CAN'T CONJURE EVEN WITH 100% MASTERY.
YOU CAN CONJURE A SWORD SIMPLY WITH A DURABLE, SHARP BLADE...
NEN SWORD
A REAL SWORD
÷
BUT YOU MIGHT AS WELL **BUY** YOURSELF AN ACTUAL, HIGH-QUALITY SWORD—NO TRAINING INVOLVED. THOUGH YOU CAN'T MAKE IT APPEAR AND DISAPPEAR AT WILL.
IT'S POINTLESS TO CONJURE SOMETHING THAT ALREADY EXISTS...
...BUT YOU CAN'T CONJURE SOMETHING OVERLY SUPERNATURAL.
IT'S DIFFICULT FOR CONJURERS TO BE COMBAT-EFFECTIVE.
YOU'LL HAVE TO DECIDE WHAT TO CONJURE ONLY AFTER CAREFUL CONSIDERATION.
A MISTAKE IS NOT AN OPTION.
IT TAKES INCREDIBLE CONCENTRATION, TRAINING, AND TIME TO CONJURE SOMETHING AT WILL.
I WANT **CHAINS.**

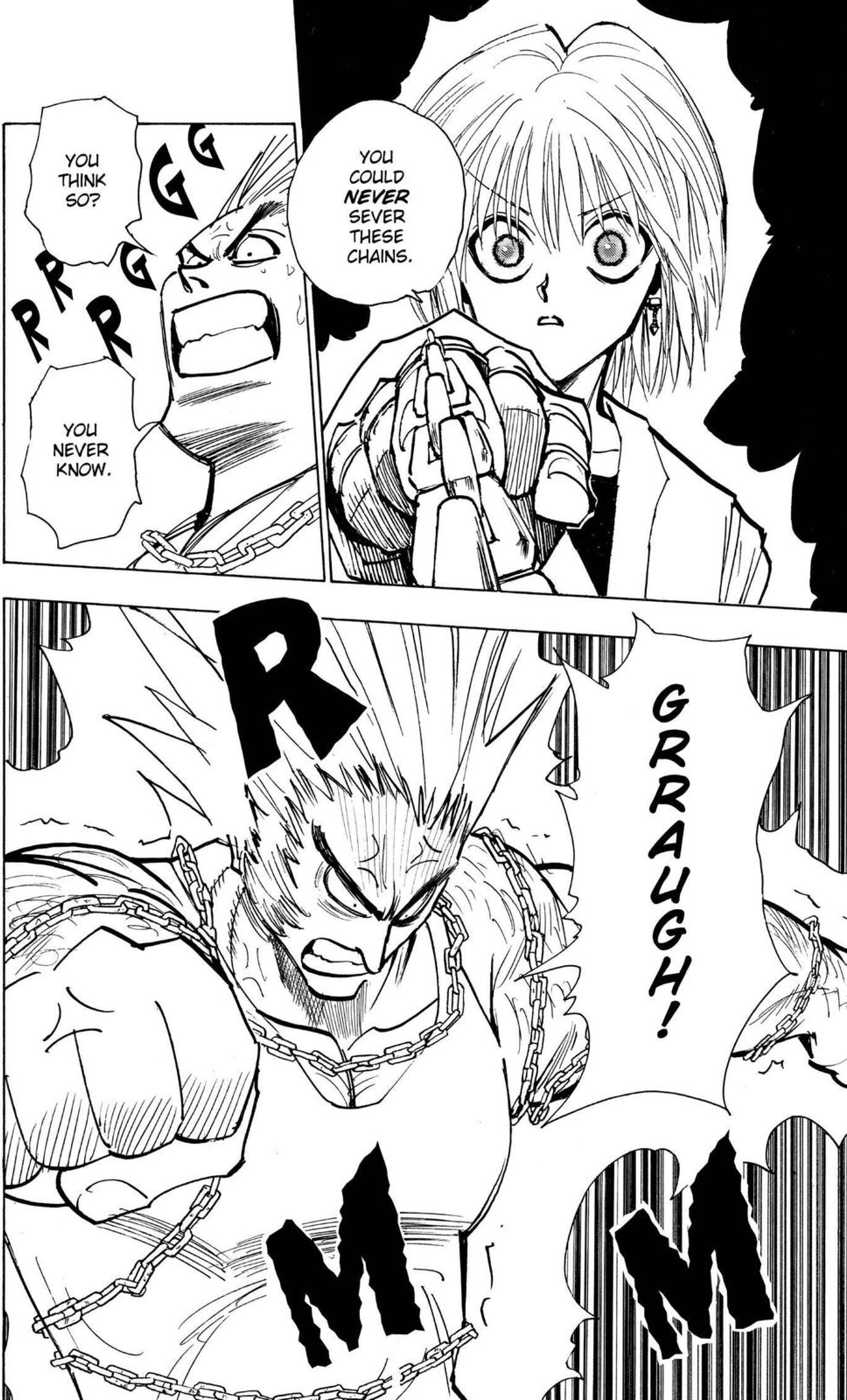

YES.
CHAINS...?
WHEN YOU SAID I WAS A CONJURER...
...THAT WAS THE FIRST THING THAT CAME TO MIND.
CHAINS, HUH...
I WONDER WHY?
BECAUSE THERE ARE PEOPLE AT LARGE...
...WHO NEED TO BE CHAINED TO HELL.
REALLY? I THOUGHT YOU WERE THE ONE WHO'S BOUND.
...
WHAT DO YOU KNOW?!
SHF
SHF
HEY, I'M NOT DONE YET!
DON'T YOU WALK AWAY!
HEY!
I TOLD YOU IT'S POINTLESS TO CONJURE A REGULAR CHAIN!
No respect for your teacher?!
AND IT'S IMPOSSIBLE TO CONJURE AN UNBREAKABLE CHAIN!!


WHAT'S NEW?
YOU NEVER LISTEN.
SIGH.
YOU CAN'T MAKE AN UNBREAKABLE CHAIN…
…BUT YOU COULD COME VERY CLOSE.
REALLY?
YOUR EARS ONLY HEAR WHAT THEY WANT, HUH?
WHAT DO I DO?
MAKE A CONTRACT WITH SELF-IMPOSED LIMITATIONS.

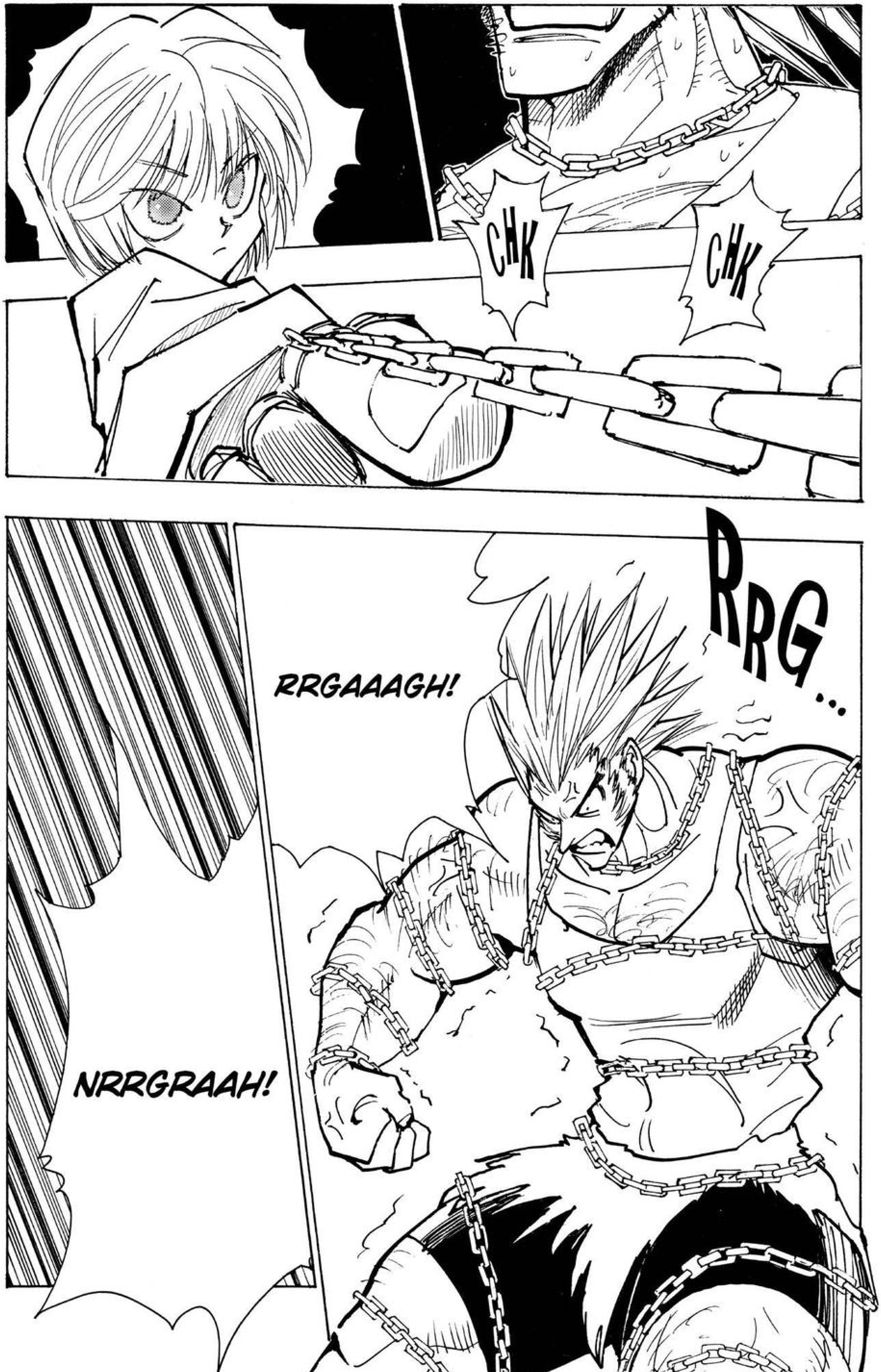

RRRMMMMMMMM
I BECOME A SPECIALIST...
...ONLY WHEN MY EYES TURN SCARLET!
THOSE EYES...!
NOW I REMEMBER.

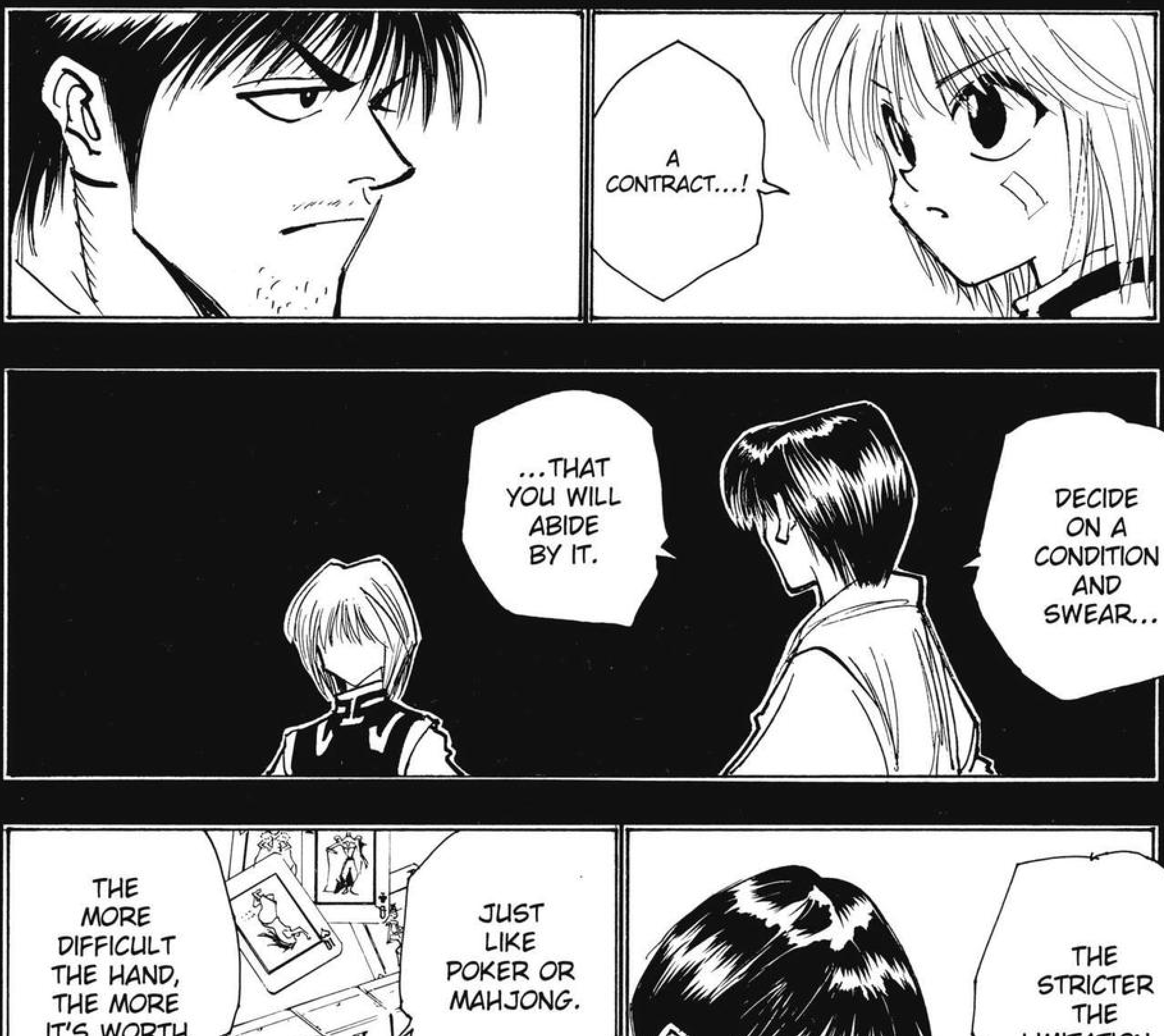
READ THIS WAY


THEIR EYES TURNED RED WHEN THEY GOT MAD!!
THEY WERE HIDING OUT IN SOME BACKWOODS.
CHROLLO TOOK QUITE A LIKING TO THOSE EYES.
THAT WAS A **MAJOR** TASK.
THEY WERE PRETTY POWERFUL...
SO YOU'RE THE LAST ONE.
WHICH IS MORE POWERFUL...
...YOUR GRUDGE OR **ME?!**
BRING IT ON!!
FILTHY CUR.
IS THAT ALL YOU THINK ABOUT?

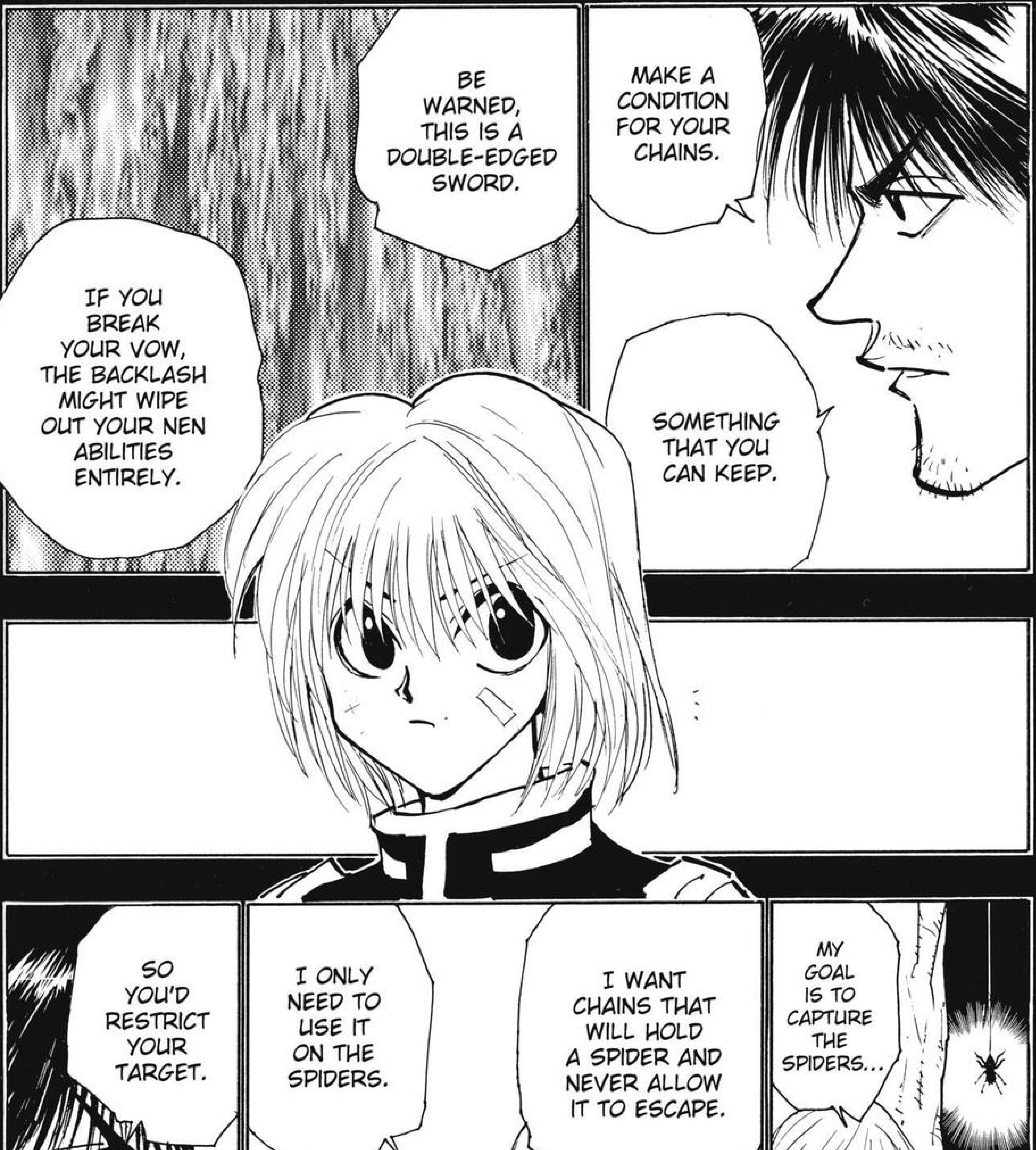

YOU COULD ***NEVER*** SEVER THESE CHAINS.
YOU THINK SO?
RRGGG
RRG
YOU NEVER KNOW.
GRRAUGH!
R
MM

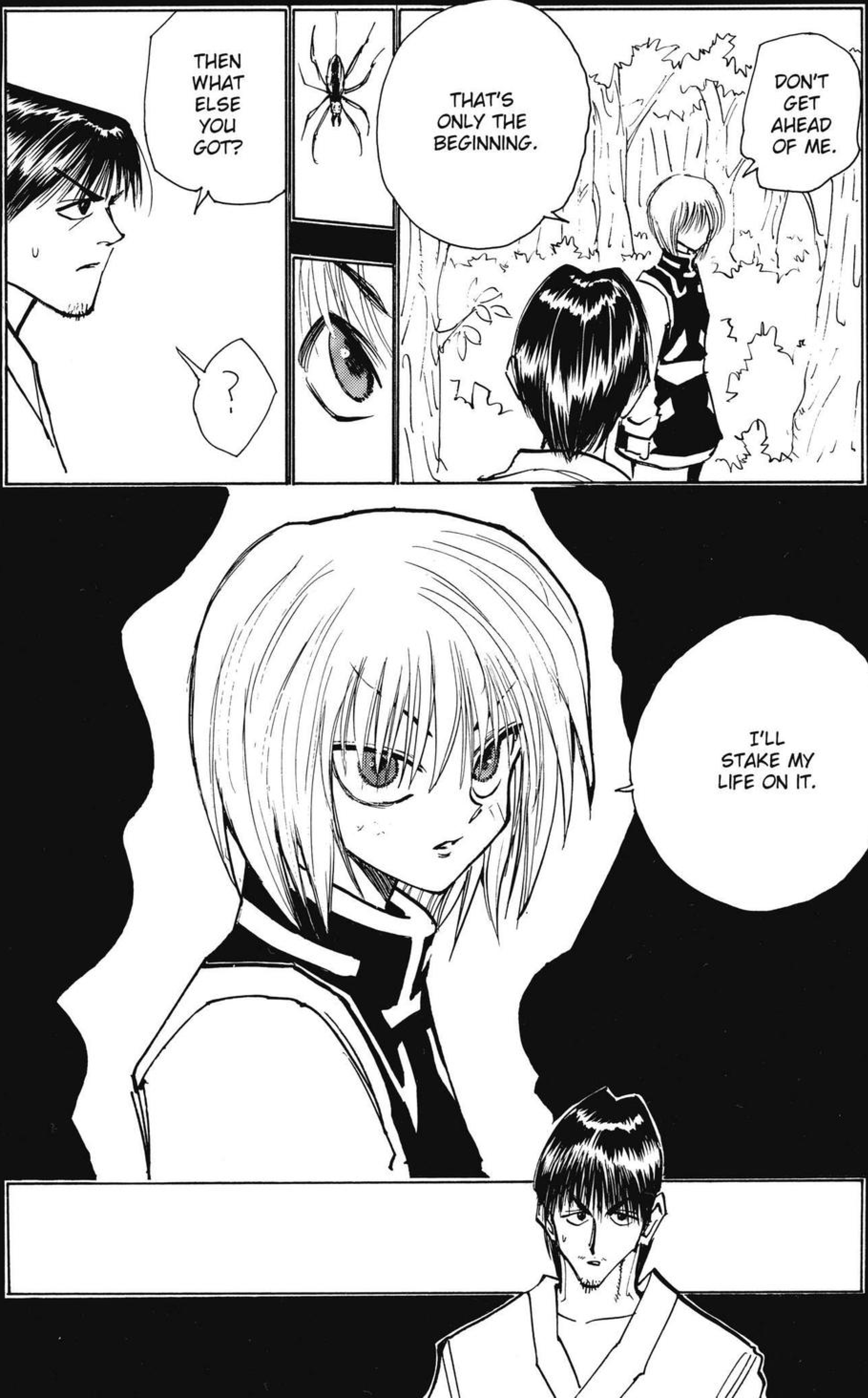
READ THIS WAY

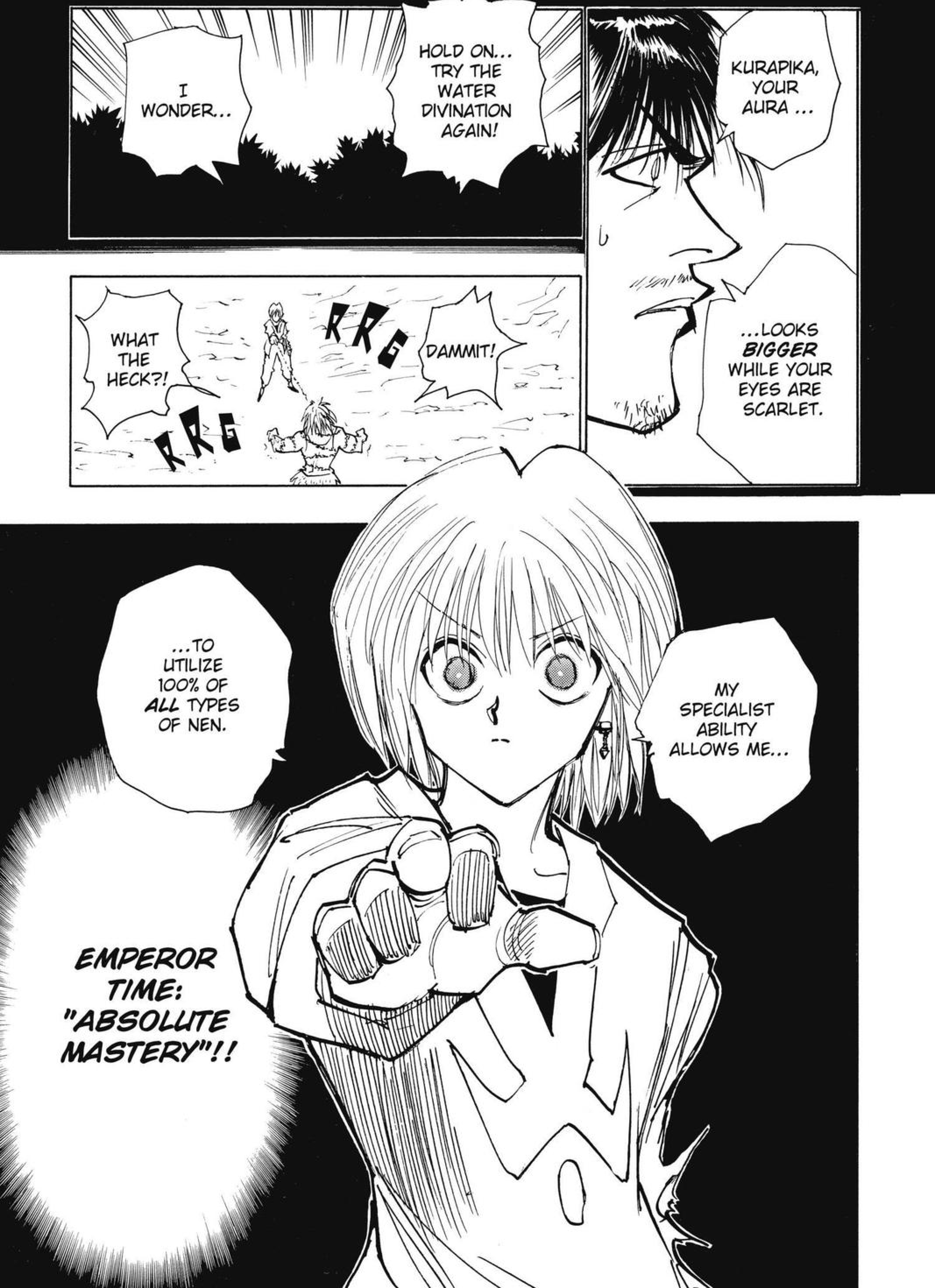

CHK
CHK
RRG...
RRGAAAGH!
NRRGRAAH!


A CONTRACT...!
DECIDE ON A CONDITION AND SWEAR...
...THAT YOU WILL ABIDE BY IT.
THE STRICTER THE LIMITATION...
FLEX
...THE MORE POWER YOUR ABILITY WILL GAIN FROM IT!!
JUST LIKE POKER OR MAHJONG.
THE MORE DIFFICULT THE HAND, THE MORE IT'S WORTH.
IF APPLYING NEN ADDS TO YOUR POWER, A NEN CONTRACT MULTIPLIES IT.
YOUR POWER WILL SKYROCKET.
AP + SP × MP = !!
ATTACK POINTS
SPIRIT POINTS
MYSTERY POINTS

READ THIS WAY


MAKE A CONDITION FOR YOUR CHAINS.
SOMETHING THAT YOU CAN KEEP.
BE WARNED, THIS IS A DOUBLE-EDGED SWORD.
IF YOU BREAK YOUR VOW, THE BACKLASH MIGHT WIPE OUT YOUR NEN ABILITIES ENTIRELY.
MY GOAL IS TO CAPTURE THE SPIDERS...
...AND TO FIND THE EYES OF MY BRETHREN.
I WANT CHAINS THAT WILL HOLD A SPIDER AND NEVER ALLOW IT TO ESCAPE.
I ONLY NEED TO USE IT ON THE SPIDERS.
SO YOU'D RESTRICT YOUR TARGET.
THAT'S A BIT WEAK.


DON'T GET AHEAD OF ME.
THAT'S ONLY THE BEGINNING.
THEN WHAT ELSE YOU GOT?
?
I'LL STAKE MY LIFE ON IT.


KURAPIKA, YOUR AURA ...
...LOOKS **BIGGER** WHILE YOUR EYES ARE SCARLET.
HOLD ON... TRY THE WATER DIVINATION AGAIN!
I WONDER...
DAMMIT!
RRG
WHAT THE HECK?!
RRG
MY SPECIALIST ABILITY ALLOWS ME...
...TO UTILIZE 100% OF **ALL** TYPES OF NEN.
EMPEROR TIME: "ABSOLUTE MASTERY"!!